

APPROVED FOR RELEASE: 2007/02/08: CIA-RDP82-00850R000200020043-0

**4629**  
**23 NOVEMBER 1979**

**NO. 2048**

**1 OF 2**

JPRS 74629

23 November 1979

# Near East/North Africa Report

No. 2048



FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

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50272-101

REPORT DOCUMENTATION PAGE		1. REPORT NO. JPRS 74629	2.	3. Recipient's Accession No.
4. Title and Subtitle NEAR EAST/NORTH AFRICA REPORT, No. 2048			5. Report Date 23 November 1979	6.
7. Author(s)			8. Performing Organization Rept. No.	
9. Performing Organization Name and Address Joint Publications Research Service 1000 North Glebe Road Arlington, Virginia 22201			10. Project/Task/Work Unit No.	11. Contract(C) or Grant(G) No. (C) (G)
12. Sponsoring Organization Name and Address  As above			13. Type of Report & Period Covered	
15. Supplementary Notes			14.	
16. Abstract (Limit: 200 words)  This serial report contains information on socioeconomic, government, political, and technical developments in the countries of the Near East and North Africa.				
17. Document Analysis a. Descriptors				
Political Science	Inter-Arab Affairs	Libya	Sultanate of Oman	
Sociology	North African Affairs	Mauritania	x Syria	
Economics	Afghanistan	x Morocco	Tunisia	
Culture (Social Sciences)	x Algeria	People's Democratic Republic of Yemen	United Arab Emirates	
Ethnology	Bahrain	Persian Gulf Area	Western Sahara	
Geography	x Egypt	Qatar	Yemen Arab Republic	
Techological	x Iran	Saudi Arabia		
Military Sciences	Iraq	Spanish North Africa		
	x Israel	Sudan		
	Jordan			
	x Kuwait			
	x Lebanon			
b. Identifiers/Open-Ended Terms				
c. COSATI Field/Group 5D, 5C, 5K, 15				
18. Availability Statement Unlimited Availability Sold by NTIS Springfield, Virginia 22161		19. Security Class (This Report) UNCLASSIFIED		21. No. of Pages 121
		20. Security Class (This Page) UNCLASSIFIED		22. Price

(See ANSI-739.10)

See Instructions on Reverse

OPTIONAL FORM 272 (4-77)  
(Formerly NTIS-35)  
Department of Commerce

JPRS 74629

23 November 1979

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ALGERIA

'AL-SHA'B': KHOMEYNI GREETINGS TO BENDJEDID ON REVOLUTION DAY

LD131341 Algiers AL-SHA'B in Arabic 3 Nov 79 p 3 LD

[Text] Chedli Bendjedid, president and party secretary general, has received the following congratulatory cable from Iranian leader Ayatollah Khomeyni on the 25th anniversary of the eruption of the armed revolution:

On the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the liberation of your dear country, Algeria, from the yoke of the tyrannical authority of the colonialists, the pretenders of civilization, I send my greetings and the greetings of the honorable Iranian people to the fraternal Algerian people coupled with sincere congratulations on this glorious occasion.

Our people suffered bitterly from foreign domination and oil suckers, particularly the United States, and sense very well the bitterness of sadness and sorrow the heroic Algerian people had suffered. Because of the fraternity and spiritual ideology which bind the two peoples, the Iranian people have shared the joys and sorrows of the fraternal Algerian people and of all the fraternal Islamic peoples.

I have strong hopes that the Muslims in all parts of the world will study their problems and the causes of their sufferings as they stand on the threshold of the new century [the start of the new Hegira century] and, therefore, seek to liberate themselves from the shackles of the imperialists. The Muslims, who suffered bitter pains at the hands of the oppressive big powers and were subjected by various ways and means to the intrigues and conspiracies of these powers which also plundered their wealth throughout this century, must unite, unify their stands and rally together sincerely and faithfully and rely on almighty God and on Islam in order to be able to rid themselves of their present situation.

In order to rid themselves of this situation, the Muslim peoples and states, if they are patriotic, should seek to sever the bonds of ideological subservience to the West. The Muslim must adhere to their genuine deep-rooted culture and learn the progressive Islamic culture which derives its teachings from divine inspiration and the holy book and teach this culture to the world.

The East and Africa, the continent which has risen from backwardness as a result of the national Islamic renaissance and the bloody revolution of the brave Algerian people and thus rescued one country after another from the grip of the United States and other colonialist states, must rely on themselves and on their intrinsic power and vigorously fight imported cultures. The African and Asian countries and all countries bound by shackling conditions must realize that the evils and corruption which the conspiratorial and aggressive West and East and the United States--the aggressor against oppressed states--export to them are immeasurable.

The Muslim states must adopt a hostile stand toward usurper Israel which has caused problems and tragedies for the Islamic countries. These countries must defend with all their might the aims of dear Palestine and Lebanon.

The Muslim countries must defend the liberation organizations all over the world. We strongly denounce the Egyptian-Israeli plot to jeopardize the tremendous revolution of the struggling Palestinian people.

Heads and members of the delegations now meeting in dear Algeria, let us join together to cut off the hands of the rightist and leftist criminals headed by the United States and to uproot Israel and restore the rights of the Palestinian people who have been deprived of everything.

I implore almighty God to grant the Muslim advancement, strength and unity and the Muslim countries sublimity, dignity and power. May God's peace and mercy be upon his righteous servants.

CS0: 4402

ALGERIA

ALGERIA REPORTS BENDJEDID INTERVIEW WITH FRENCH TELEVISION

LD111638 [Editorial Report LD] Algiers Domestic Service in French at 2000 GMT on 9 November carries a 47-minute announcer-read "Interview in Full" given by Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid to French television. The date of the interview is not specified. The reception is poor, as is the quality of the recording. Thus, the questions which are read in French, cannot be heard at all. Some parts of the answers are also unmonitorable as the announcer-read answers in French are often superimposed over what appears to be a recording of Bendjedid answering in Arabic.

At the beginning of the interview, Chadli Bendjedid reviews the heroism and sacrifices of the Algerian people during the Algerian revolution, and expresses thanks to those states which supported it. He stresses his plans to continue with Algeria's socialist revolution, and expresses concern that Algerians working abroad receive the full respect due them until such time as the Algerian government can bring them all home.

Asked a question on Algerian-French relations, Bendjedid replies:

"Despite the trials suffered by the Algerian people during the fight for liberation, despite the problems that have arisen, our people harbor no resentment. We are against French colonialism, we have never been against the French people. This idea must clearly be borne in mind. We have turned over the page of a colonialism that lasted nearly a century and a half. We want to open a new page.

"We, the people and the government, are inspired by a sincere will for co-operation with France. We have, by the way, attained a noticeable evolution of these relations. Unfortunately, during the past few years clouds have gathered in the sky of French-Algerian relations. Today, let me say on behalf of the political leadership of Algeria, the occasion is favorable (?for tackling) negotiations on relations between the two countries. As far as Algeria is concerned, it is ready to (?proceed). We want, in conformity with the will of the Algerian people, to open a new page, allow the past to belong to history and look towards the future.

"The visit to Algeria of the French Minister of Foreign Affairs has been, in my opinion, a happy initiative of the French government. As far as I am concerned, I reaffirm our desire to open constructive dialog without

endangering our interests, but a dialog based on respect for the joint promotion of fruitful cooperation for the two countries."

In reply to another question, Bendjedid speaks about his intention to improve the lot of the Algerian masses, strengthening the institutions, the economy and the state's structure. He describes various stages in Algeria's development, and notes that agriculture must be strengthened.

Answering another question, Bendjedid says that there is no opposition in Algeria, only individual opponents. In Algeria the people is its own master, and is the only leader of the revolution together with the FLN, the only party. Nobody else can impose its will on Algeria. The FLN stands for full democracy and respect of the constitution. Those who stand up as opponents are men of the past. Today, it is the revolution that is alive and those who do not follow it have no place in Algeria. The opponents are suspect, because foreign interests appear to be involved in their activities. Different opinions are allowed in Algeria, but not ganging up against the revolution.

In connection with the Western Sahara problem, Bendjedid says:

"The Saharan affair is clear to us just as it is to the international and regional organizations. The matter is a consequence of the liquidation of colonialism. We support the principle of the peoples' right to self-determination. We do not accept the language of force that wants to force upon peoples solutions they reject.

"To us, the conflict is between a people fighting for its freedom and a regime using force to impose its will on this people, the Saharan people. As we believe in the necessity of guaranteeing the right of peoples to self-determination, we support the Saharan people. By doing this, we are in perfect harmony with the UN charter the OAU, and the principles of the nonaligned movement."

Replying to another question, Bendjedid confirms that in his opinion the Saharan people exists, is living on its territory and is fighting for the recognition of its sovereignty. He then continues:

"There is talk of an Algerian-Moroccan conflict. This is wrong. The real conflict exists between a people which is fighting for its freedom, its self-determination against a regime that wants to force its will upon it. As far as Algeria is concerned, it is defending a principle which it has not created, but which it has always respected. It did so during its national liberation war by demanding the recognition of the Algerian people's right to self-determination. In this we are faithful to our principles. We have demanded respect for ourselves."

He then continues:

"We have not been the ones to break relations with Morocco. It was Morocco which took the initiative. (?It is necessary) that relations should be based on UN charter and an objective study of the problems. (?I believe) that the

Saharan problem must be solved politically and peacefully, because arms do not settle political problems."

Later in the interview, Bendjedid says in connection with a question on the Camp David agreement that the answer to the Middle East problem is clear. It will never be solved if the interests of the main party, the Palestinians, are disregarded. There cannot be peace if the Palestinians are ignored. The occupation of the territories is the root of the problem, and solutions of others aspects are nothing but palliatives.

CSO: 4400

EGYPT

PRESIDENT'S TENURE CRITICIZED

Cairo AL-DA'WAH in Arabic Oct 79 p 49

[Article by Muhammad 'Abd-al-Quddus: "Limiting the Presidential Term of Office Is a Necessity"]

[Text] I am reviewing this matter in total objectivity, removed from the excitement of the situation, and I am letting God only guide my course. This is an effort on my part to be of service to this Moslem country, to promote it and to raise the banner of Islam over its territories so that what happened in the recent and the distant past would not recur.

Among the constitutional amendments that have been proposed is that which pertains to amending Article 77 of the constitution which pertains to the presidential term. The president's tenure in office would thus not be confined to two terms only as is stipulated by the current article. It is my opinion that we should establish a maximum number of years for the president's tenure in office. I believe that in Egypt, in particular, this matter is necessary and urgent. [I believe that it is necessary and urgent] that the present article remain as it is without amendment. I am supported in this opinion by reasons that are valid to me.

First, when it comes to legislation it is better that our perspective and our thoughts not be confined to the present. Instead, the future must be taken into consideration. Similarly, all impulses for flattery must be set aside because the matter pertains to a homeland that has a past, a present and a future.

Second, there is a huge difference between a ruler in an Islamic regime and a ruler who governs under positive laws. The first governs according to decreed and established rules. The advantages of these rules have been confirmed to all those who applied them, and they became models of justice, equality and equality of opportunity. The perpetuation of a presidential term is therefore permissible because people may remove the ruler from office if he violates the law of God in his administration. Positive laws, however, are subject to all the shortcomings and inconstancies of the human mind and, therefore, require that renewal of the presidential term be not without limits.

We have seen how much tyranny the executive authority has exercised over the other authorities. There are controls in limiting the presidential term that bring about [a sense of] balance between the authorities.

Third, Egypt is ruled today by a multiple party system. It is the nature of multiple party systems in all the countries that have them not to allow an unrestricted presidential term because of the dangers they have experienced as a result of not limiting the presidential term. For this reason they make the ruler a symbol of the state and of sovereignty. But government and the execution [of business] are the prerogative of the cabinet. This is the case in Italy, West Germany, Austria and India. We all know that in the United States a president cannot renew his term of office but once. There is no doubt that the length of the period would tempt a president to hang on to his position. And this situation would entail measures that are not in the interests of nations. The British people overthrew Churchill right after the war even though he was the one who had brought them victory. I offer the following examples to underscore this notion, the notion that the length of the [presidential] term is a temptation for injustice [that is perpetrated] in order for the president to hang on to the position.

A. In Western Europe, there was Salazar, the dictator of Portugal who continued to rule that country for 40 years. Franco also stayed in power for 38 years.

B. In Eastern Europe, there were Stalin, Tito and others.

C. In Asia, there was the Shah of Iran and what he did to his people; and there was Mao Tse Tung and Sukarno.

D. In Africa, there was Haile Selassie, the former emperor of Ethiopia; and there were many others.

E. In South America, there were men like Somoza.

F. In Egypt, we had Jamal 'Abd-al-Nasir and the misfortunes he inflicted upon Egypt.

Fourth, this rapid tour around the world and the comparison between democratic and oppressive regimes make me affirm with certainty and with assurance that limiting the presidential term is a sound, reasonable and authentic principle in our contemporary world. We urge that it be applied here because the president of the republic in Egypt, according to the 1971 Constitution has vast powers that are almost absolute. Furthermore, he is not accountable to the People's Assembly. The fact that the presidential term is not limited is consistent with a single party system, but it is most certainly not consistent with the multiple party system.

Fifth, the stability of the constitution is an indication of the stability of the government. In Egypt, however, constitutions have been changed in a manner

that attracts attention. In 23 years, from 1956 until today, there have been four constitutions; the 1956 Constitution, the 1958 Unity Constitution, the 1964 Provisional Constitution, and the 1971 Constitution. There were only two presidents, however, during that time. This means that the number of constitutions was twice that the number of presidents, and this is an unsettling situation as far as constitutional stability is concerned.

Sixth, limiting the presidential term is in the interests of the president of the republic because the president can be in one of two situations; if he is a successful president, it is best for him to give up the presidency at the height of his success so that his memory would live as a model for those who will succeed him. If he is a failure, it is also best that he make room for others.

Seventh, limiting the presidential term makes the president's advisers offer him the truest and the soundest advice so that they can be well thought of in their country. The fact that the presidential term is not limited would tempt them to offer insincere advice because the presidency is permanent and their personal interests become tied to this permanence.

Eighth, limiting the presidential term sets a high example for not becoming attached to the presidency and turning away from it. It also renews the vitality [in government, restoring to it] the vitality of youth that withers because of the length of the presidential term.

Ninth, not limiting the presidential term constitutes what resembles monopoly, and monopoly, especially when it is in government, hurts everything.

8592  
CSO: 4802



EGYPT

GOVERNMENT CRITICIZED FOR NOT APPLYING ISLAMIC LAW

Cairo AL-DA'WAH in Arabic Oct 79 p 25

[Article by Salih 'Ashmawi: "Who Is Responsible for the Fact That Islamic Law Is Not Being Enforced?"]

[Text] Discussion calling for the application of Islamic law must be continued and renewed. The frequent repetition of such a call is not boring; in fact, insistence, perseverance, diligence, persistence and escalation of the campaign constitute the required course that would bear fruit. The campaign would thus reach its goals and achieve its objective. The rights of a claimant who perseveres are never lost.

A magazine has recently published that Dr Sufi Abu Talib, the speaker of the People's Assembly delivered, as was his custom, a lecture on Islamic law, but he was unexpectedly confronted by a stormy encounter with young Moslems who were attending the lecture. They showered him with questions about the reasons for the delay in ratifying the bills that would put Islamic law into practice.

Once again the speaker of the People's Assembly resorted to the excuse that became outworn with usage: the Shari'ah Legislation Committees were lagging behind in their work and the Borders Committee was the only committee that had completed its work. The young people were not satisfied with this excuse which would not longer satisfy a small child, an enthusiastic young man, a judicious man or a venerable old man.

The truth is that parliamentary sessions after parliamentary sessions have been adjourned and one assembly after another has been formed and the position of the People's Assembly on ratifying the bills that would put Islamic law into practice remained unchanged. It is the position of "maintain your position."

It seems that Dr Sufi wanted to reassure the young people who were agitated so he told them about integrative bills that would put Islamic law into practice. Dr Sufi told the young people that these bills would be presented to the current [session of the] People's Assembly in November.

As we make a note of this promise that was made by the speaker of the People's Assembly--and we don't know the number of that promise because so many statements have been issued and so many promises have been made--we sincerely hope that this promise will be realized. November is not a far way off.

#### The Responsibility of the Ruler

After trying to defend the delay of the People's Assembly in ratifying the bills that would put Islamic law into practice, the speaker of the People's Assembly did make a clear and profound statement at the end of this meeting. He said, "A discussion about putting Islamic law into practice is mere talk. Such application is the responsibility of those who enforce such laws." He gave an example [of this] and said, "Any judge can now refuse to render a verdict that is based on any law that contradicts Islamic law because under the existing constitution such a law would be considered unconstitutional."

This statement promptly raises the following question: "Who is responsible for the fact that Islamic law has so far not been put into practice in Egypt?" The answer is clear and simple.

The primary responsibility falls on the president of the republic, Muhammad Anwar al-Sadat. He is the symbol of the state and the head of the government. He can--if he were to place his prestige, his influence and his power behind the issue of putting Islamic law into practice--accomplish much and accomplish it sooner than many people think. Precedents affirm that he can do so.

There is no doubt that the People's Assembly can ratify the bills that would put Islamic law into practice during its current session. Apologies about the fact that the Shari'ah Legislation Committees did not complete their work are no longer acceptable.

The government, as represented by the prime minister and the ministers, can begin immediately enforcing Islamic law in a broad area and in many matters without waiting for the new laws. The government can issue administrative orders for holding prayers during business hours in ministries, government agencies, public sector companies, in the courts, in educational institutions and in the universities. The government can also close restaurants during the days of the month of Ramadan, [the month during which Moslems are required to fast from sunrise to sunset], and during the Friday noon prayer. It can close the nightclubs on al-Haram Street, and it can forbid the broadcasting of wanton songs and the showing of sexual movies and such other actions.

The elders, the scholars, the students and the missionaries of al-Azhar can do much to put Islamic law into practice. A legal opinion, a speech or an article that is written or delivered in diffidence is not enough.

There is no doubt that the courts can begin applying Islamic law immediately without waiting for the new laws. They can refuse rendering verdicts that

are based on any law whose provisions contradict the provisions and the teachings of Islam. Yes, a judge can refuse to grant interest because interest is usury, and usury is prohibited in Islamic law. [A judge can do so] in spite of the fact that the civil law stipulates that interest be paid. This is because the law in this matter is unconstitutional.

There was a time when an Islamic judge would find himself in a fearful struggle between his conscience and his faith and between the stipulations of the positive law whenever he had to render a verdict on a matter that contravened Islamic law. This difficulty has now been removed, thank God, and a judge can now refuse to render a verdict according to those laws.

#### The Responsibility of the Press

Instead of publishing love stories, romances and news about male and female artists as well as actors and actresses, the press, in all its diversity and variety, with its power, its control and its influence, can mobilize people; it can amass efforts, and it can attract the attention of officials forcefully and with determination to the application of Islamic law.

The rest of the media--and this is what the educated person and the illiterate person listen to--can play a positive role in the application of Islamic law, instead of broadcasting wanton songs and showing cheap, sexy movies. Dr al-Dhahabi, may God have mercy on his soul, did say, "Television does demolish what the mosque builds."

Finally, the people--and chief amongst them are the young believers who are students at the universities--are the ones who have the primary right and the major interest in the application of Islamic law. It is not enough that the people express their desire and proclaim their unanimity in their demand for the application of Islamic law. They must rather proclaim their determination and their insistence on this demand. They can exert pressure on their representatives in the People's Assembly, on their ministers and on the different agencies of government until their wishes are met and their request is granted.

One can thus see that the entire nation, from the top to the foundation, is responsible for the fact that Islamic law is not being applied. Let each one of us, regardless of his position, do his duty and work seriously and sincerely for the purpose of achieving this noble goal. There is enough room for everyone in this field of work and effort. Let no one think that procrastination and the passage of time will make the people forget this demand or give it up. Their insistence upon it will grow regardless of the cost. "Allah has power to grant them victory" [The Pilgrimage: 44].

8592  
CSO: 4802

EGYPT

CRITICAL DEBATE ON NEW STUDENT ORDINANCE CONTINUES

Cairo AL-DA'WAH in Arabic Oct 79 pp 56-57

[Article: "Youth and University News: Debate on New Student Ordinance Continues; the Ban Against Organizations That Are Established on Ideological Bases Does Not Apply to Islamic Groups; Abolishment of Association Is Obvious Challenge to Students"]

[Text] A person who has been following student activities in our universities this year has seen that Islamic missionary activity has been noticeable. This activity took place despite obstacles and hindrances. Islamic groups have attracted a sector of students that is not inconsiderable; these groups continue to attract attention on the local and international scenes with their reactions to significant events within the Islamic homeland. On the international scene western newspapers have underscored and demonstrated their apprehension from the increase in Islamic activity in the universities of Egypt. On the local scene a series of events did begin, and the matter was taken to court in what was called the events of the universities of al-Minya and Aasyut. The courts rendered their verdict and exonerated Moslem youth from all the charges that had been made against them.

The new student ordinance that was issued behind the backs of students abolished the General Association of Students. What are the consequences of this? Why have the college associations been restricted? Do these incidents manifest democracy? What can possibly happen if Egypt's students were represented by the National Association of Egyptian Students in Iraq, which is attacking Egypt, instead of by their own General Association? Is the abolishment of Islamic activity in the university based on legal principles? We will try to answer all these questions in this investigation that AL-DA'WAH is undertaking to resume its discussion of the new student ordinance.

The Courts Speak

Mustafa Farghali al-Shuqayri, a judge in South Cairo says, "When we discuss this matter from a legal standpoint, the new ordinance for the Student's Association which stipulated a ban against the establishment of organizations or bodies on ideological bases for the purpose of abolishing the activities of Islamic groups does not apply to Islamic groups. This is due to the following matters:

"Islamic groups are not associations or organizations in the legal sense of an association or an organization. Islamic groups consist of a group of young people who have committed themselves to an Islamic code of conduct and to missionary work among others. The matter does not go beyond the practice of religious rites and the revival of Islamic teachings in one of society's sectors. This is the duty of all Moslems in society. The bonding we see among the members of Islamic groups and the affection they have for each other make some people think that these groups are associations or organizations. These groups rather demonstrate the practical application of the statement of God Almighty that 'Believers are brothers.'

"The fact that we are seeing Islamic groups carrying out the duty of enjoining kind deeds and proscribing reprehensible actions--and this is what led some to describe them as extremists and narrow minded--is merely a commitment that these groups made to a statement by the messenger of God, may God bless him and grant him salvation. The purport of the statement is this: 'Let anyone who sees an objectionable act, change it; if he cannot do so, he may speak about it; if he cannot do so, he can make the change in his heart for this is the weakest demonstration of faith.' The messenger of God, may God bless him and grant him salvation [also] said, 'The best holy war is a word spoken against a tyrant.'

"Islamic groups do not practice their activity as self-sufficient organizations, but rather as groups that grew out of the Cultural Committee, which is one of the association's official committees."

#### The Harvest of Years of Defeat

The numerous internal social, political or foreign problems that the nation is suffering from are the harvest of years of the defeat and repression of Islamic activity. In addition, tightening the grip around Islamic groups will create a gap between them and officials. Widening this gap between this broad base of Moslem youth and the leadership is not in the interests of this homeland because the young people of today are the leaders of the future.

#### The Danger of Abolishing the Association

Muhammad Mahmud 'Abdallah secretary of the Committee on Religion and Society at the General Association for Students and president of the Petroleum Engineering and Mining Association in Suez says, "There is no country in the world that does not have a general association representing its students. The danger of abolishing the general association becomes clear if we knew that Iraq has a group of students who call themselves the National Association for the Students of Egypt. The significance of abolishing the General Student Association lies in the fact that the National Association for the Students of Egypt may be considered by international organizations the representative of the student body in Egypt. What would officials do in that case?

Abolishing the Legal Channel

Khalid Fikri, president of the Association of Medical Students at Cairo University says, "If we were to look at the danger in the country of abolishing the general association, we would find that the General Student Association had begun to support different projects [such as] the student transportation project and the Women's Islamic dress code project. The association was also dealing with subjects that are of interest to students as well as university directors. The activity of the General Association had been extended to include assistance and guidance to student activities in secondary schools.

"The General Association was the only organization that could contact government agencies and official institutions to voice the problems of students.

"The new student ordinance also restricts the activities of the Association of University Students, and this will have a harmful effect on students' spirits because students may come to an agreement about activities in the university, and they may pursue these activities in the spirit of youth.

"Restricting the association--the Association of University Students--diminishes student activities in the different colleges. [In fact], these activities may die altogether. Similarly, having student activities come under the control of the president of the university would be considered interference in the freedom of students, and this is objectionable."

But what about the college associations?

Restricting Freedoms

Muhammad Mahmud 'Abdallah in petroleum engineering and mining in Suez says, "The new ordinance abolished the position of association president and replaced it with that of association secretary. There is a difference in competencies between the two positions. The president of the association and also the supervisor of student affairs at the college had the right to sign checks. The secretary of the association does not have the right to sign checks, and this restricts the freedom of the associations."

Muhammad Mahmud 'Abdallah says, "The activities of the student associations in the recent period have won the admiration of our fathers, the members of the faculty, who have encouraged more of them. These activities which have also won the approval of some students, have made the students wonder about who is qualified to replace the Islamic groups in leading the associations after this? The best example of the students' approval is their unanimity in the elections in almost all the colleges. Had the members of Islamic groups not been worth [of leadership positions], the large numbers of aware students would have rejected them. They would not have found for themselves a place among the students. The fact that this ordinance abolished the association is an obvious challenge to the wishes of student groups."

Muhammad Mahmud 'Abdallah adds, "The new student ordinance gives the students no authority. Members of the faculty and the dean have the authority. This authority which was usurped from students by the ordinance and given to members of the faculty may create friction between the students and faculty members that only God would know about. When a student feels that he is not qualified to be charged with a certain function, he will lose confidence in himself.

"Finally, we say to those who are drawing up ordinances and legislating laws to fear God [in dealing with] this homeland and its youth. Let them keep in mind that as young people at the universities rally around Islam, they do not do so from a vacuum, or because they have established an association or an organization. They do so because they are committed to speak the truth of Almighty God: 'The true believers, both men and women, are friends to each other. They enjoin what is just and forbid what is evil; they attend to their prayers and pay the alms-tax and obey Allah and His apostle. On these Allah will have mercy. He is mighty and wise' [Repentance: 71]."

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EGYPT

HARMFUL CONSEQUENCES OF AGREEMENT WITH ISRAEL DISCUSSED

Cairo AL-DA'WAH in Arabic Oct 79 pp 4-6

[Editorial by 'Umar al-Talmasani: "Those Jews Keep No Promises and Have No Conscience"]

[Text] This is the prominent feature of those people; they cannot escape it even if they themselves tried to be like other human beings in so far as human emotions and human feelings are concerned. Were they to try hard to be like other human beings, they can only achieve part of what they want in this regard--if they truly want to--because this is how they are created.

Humanity is the concept that was burned in the perceptions of Jews. It turned into ashes that were blown away by the wind not only in all the corners of the world, but also outside the earth's atmosphere to become lost in the abyss of the unknown and in the bottomless pits of space. The Jews know this about themselves, and they try to hide this behind a curtain of democracy that they draw on the citizens of Israel who are eastern as well as western Jews. They try to make the world believe that freedom, complete freedom, exists nowhere, works nowhere or delights [people] nowhere but in Israel. But regardless of the media skills it can summon, regardless of its cunning in hiding facts, regardless of its ability to falsify and to mislead, Israel will not have influence over the laws of the universe whose systems have established that time will reveal whatever men hide.

They themselves reveal their intentions little by little, sometimes deliberately and other times inadvertently. Their intentions clearly indicate to us that they are determined to achieve their ambitions whether or not there is a peace treaty. This is because to them a promise is of no value unless it serves their interest. Otherwise, they are always willing to revoke in the afternoon, and even before noon, the promise they sealed early that morning. Have we not seen the newspapers that were published on August 5, 1979 after Camp David and the peace agreement, stating that the Israeli government had announced that it was refusing the participation of the PLO in any negotiations now or in the future? The Israeli government also decided not to cooperate in any form with the UN peace keeping forces in Sinai.



#### Israel Is Taking Liberties

Those are the people with whom we have made an agreement and with whom we want to normalize relations. What we are always reading is that Egypt wants the Palestinians to have a part in the negotiations, but that Israel refuses this adamantly now and in the future [even though] there is an agreement between us and them. How can anyone in his right mind conceive of this situation? If Israel is taking such liberties, what should the position of the Egyptian government be? How can the Egyptian government make everything easy for the Jews, while they make everything complicated for it? Then we are asked to think well of Israel and to be realistic although those who oppose this treaty are the ones who are truly realistic. We ask God from the bottom of our hearts that He spare us the evils and consequences of this treaty.

#### Distance From Them Is an Advantage

It is the best of blessings for us not to enter into any contracts with those people regardless of the justifications, the circumstances and the surrounding conditions. It is an advantage to be away from them. In order to avoid having the vindication, the discovery or the promotion of my point of view, that making promises to these people is futile, interfere [in this argument], I will not allow myself to make an introductory statement in this regard, but I will let others make such a statement instead.

In the newspaper AL-AKHBAR of 31 July 1979 Lt Gen Kamal Hasan "ali the minister of defense announced that the [question of the] settlements constituted a provocative action that did not serve peace. This was a statement from a man who is responsible for protecting the homeland. The significance of the word, provocative, is clear and evident. That is, first of all, it is not a legitimate act; second, it is equivalent to a challenge; third, it is contemptuous of the other party; fourth, it demonstrates excessive conceit, arrogance and haughtiness; fifth, it shows that the challenger is confident in his position; sixth, it denies what is being said about the good intentions of Israel; seventh, it reveals Egypt's weak position if Egypt were to pass over this challenge; and eighth, it is a test of how far Israel can go in perpetuating such provocative action and taking subsequent steps if the second party were to pass over such provocation. Did Israel turn away from such provocative action after this serious military announcement? Not at all.

#### How Can We Be Reassured?

Yes, not at all. The Israeli government announced that it refused to have the PLO as a partner in any negotiations now or in the future (AL-AHRAM, Monday, 6 August 1979). It also decided not to cooperate in any way with the UN peace keeping force in Sinai. Egypt is quite eager about the participation of the liberation organization in the ongoing negotiations, and it believes that this is one of the most important factors that would bring about the success of these negotiations.

But the second party to the peace treaty is adamant, determined and unequivocal in its refusal of PLO participation in the negotiations now or in the future. How can these two antithetical opinions be reconciled, and how can we be reassured that Israel really wants peace? How can we concede that Israeli intentions are good especially since Israel refuses to cooperate with the UN peace keeping force in Sinai in a manner that violates all rules of decorum? What is the meaning of this refusal? Is Israel preparing for something? Does it intend to betray and to surprise us? Don't these positions impart to us a certain implication about this Israeli arrogance? Don't they tell us that Israel will proceed in carrying out its ambitions without consideration for international promises and human fundamentals?

#### Israel's Ultimate Hopes

The most that Israel used to hope for is that the Islamic countries, or at least one of them recognize it, even if the price of such recognition were its return to the 1948 borders. Israel has now achieved its ultimate wishes; [it has won the recognition] of the strongest Islamic country. But why is it not showing any consideration? Why does it think that time has given it peace and that material power in this world is the means for realizing illegitimate ambitions? Although it hurts us that Israel has taken this position, we hope that this blatant challenge to the dignity of Moslems throughout the world will be an incentive to awaken Islamic chauvinism to take action that would force Israel to keep its place. We hope that it will be an effective cordial that would revive the feelings of Moslems for their religion and for championing and defending it so that all those who have ambitions, wherever they may be, would know that the Moslems are still free and proud. Small numbers will not keep Moslems away from a holy war even if the required cost for such a war were the lives of millions. There is no doubt that it is noble and more consistent with the faith that ten million Moslems live in freedom and honor protecting their homes and their sacrosanct objects than one billion Moslems live in disgrace, in serfdom and in servility, trampled underfoot by those who had been plotting against their religion ever since it came into existence.

#### We Do Not Engage in Underhanded Activities

We do not engage in underhanded activities against Israel as it does against the entire world. But it is Dr Butrus Ghali who points out these notions in a statement he made to the French newspaper, LE MATIN. This statement was published by AL-AKHBAR on 3 August 1979. It indicated that Egypt may change its strategy if the negotiations on autonomy on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip did not lead to satisfactory results. Although we are facing opposition regarding negotiating and making agreements with Israel, we find it absolutely unacceptable that Israel assume this position with those who trusted its good intentions and concluded a peace treaty with it. We believe that the Israelis will not fulfill any one of the articles of the peace treaty. This position, and there are many like it, may truly and actually force Egypt to change its strategy with those who keep no promise or covenant with any human being.

Let me refer you to a statement that was published by Dr Ibrahim al-Bahrawi and AL-AKHBAR on Tuesday, 14 August 1979 [sic]. It contained a good analysis of Israel's position. "There is a growing conviction among international forces and western parties that the road to ensure stability in the Middle East lies in finding a peaceful settlement that includes a just and satisfactory solution to the Palestinian question. This growing conviction is as large as the different forms of Israel's narrow political vision. These manifest themselves in its hopeless attempt to swim against the sweeping current of a comprehensive solution in the area. Begin seems to be telling himself that as long as we were forced to make territorial concessions in Sinai, such a concession ought to be the price that would force the Americans and the Egyptians to keep quiet about our intentions on the West Bank and Gaza. Begin sent Carter a message after the Camp David meeting in which he stated that the government of Israel will interpret and construe the terms, Palestinians or Palestinian people, occurring in each paragraph of the document [that establishes] the agreed upon framework of settlement, to mean the Arabs of Palestine."

Although we do not agree with some of the expressions and tendencies that are mentioned in Dr al-Bahrawi's statement, we think that he agrees with us in general. The Jews that we knew before the peace treaty are the same after the peace treaty. If we were to give them all of Sinai, the Suez Canal and the al-Sharqiyah Governorate, they would not be satisfied [and deterred] from pursuing their secret, public objective of exhuming the body of the messenger of God, may God bless him and grant him salvation, from his grave and returning to Khaybar and to al-Madinah to extirpate the Islamic religion and all Moslems from the surface of the earth. Anyone who thinks otherwise will be asked, first and foremost, to examine his thoughts and to change them before posterity and God, and before it is too late. The Jews will not trust a Moslem even if he were to swear on water and make it freeze or swear on the flames and make them subside. This is because this is their nature: they lie, and they think the whole world lies; they deceive, and they think the whole world deceives; they dissemble, and they think the whole world flatters and dissembles. They cannot help this because as the Koran says, "Whenever they make a covenant, must some of them cast it aside?" [The Cow: 100]. The whole world in general and the Moslems in particular must be keenly aware of this fact. Moslems must evaluate their policy and their conduct with those Jews on this basis to ensure our safety from what those swindlers have in store for us.

They Bear Us No Good Will

Those Jews have no good will for their own race or their own Judaism. Western Jews treat eastern Jews with extreme cruelty and contempt. The Israeli government may be the most cruel government in the world. An article by Dr al-Bahrawi published in the Tuesday, 14 August 1979 issue of AL-AKHBAR newspaper stated that the Israeli government was one of the cruelest, the most offensive and the most repressive systems of government in modern times. Eastern Jews make up about 70 percent of those employed in the Israeli Defense Army, and they carry out their military service. However, they assume the lowliest and the basest of position. An Eastern Jewish woman

provided several examples of confessions that were made under brutal torture. They reveal the falsehood of the Israeli government. Some rabbis sent protests to Kurt Waldheim, stating that it was evident that the Zionist government intended to internationalize and desecrate the unique character of the Holy City. The memorandum also mentioned that devout Jews were subject to severe and relentless punishments that were dealt to them by the forces of the Zionist police under the direct instructions of Begin's government.

How can we put our hands into the hands of people who are not even true to the Jews themselves? They do not want personal glory; they do not want to spread the Jewish faith; and they do not want to expand their own terrain, as people think the ambitions of those Jews are. Not at all. They want something else for which they have been planning for a long time. Time after time and slowly they have been trying to attain it. They hate Christianity just as much as they hate Islam because of the humiliation and degradation they suffered from Christians, but not from Moslems. They did not forget the centuries of humiliation they suffered at the hands of the British and the French during the Middle Ages and early in the Renaissance. They did not forget any of this, but they have been slowly nurturing this ancient humiliation until they should have the opportunity [to avenge themselves]. Although today they are seeking the aid of Christians against Moslems, this is a stage of their horrible revenge. When, as they claim, they do away with Moslems and their allies--and they will never achieve this, and Moslems will never be extirpated--and they arrive at this stage for which they have been planning, they will turn against Christians and they will destroy them with their diabolical, malicious ways that are unknown even to the devil himself. This is the reality of their goal and the object of their desire. They want God's chosen people to prevail over the world. It is eastern Judaism that is publicizing to the world the horrors and the atrocities of the Jewish government. It is publicizing to the world the fact that the Jewish government is founded on tyranny, on torture, on racism and on racial discrimination. Although Jews pretend to show respect for their sacrosanct objects, some of them acknowledge that other Jews are trying to desecrate them. The ill intentions of Begin became evident to some Jewish rabbis who felt compelled to file complaints to Kurt Waldheim, the permanent secretary general of the United Nations Organization. Those are the Jews to whom we make promises, to whom we open the gates of our country, and with whom we want to normalize relations.

#### Intentions and the Normalization of Relations

Come with me and let me point out to you the true intentions of Israel and its ruler, Begin, regarding the normalization of these relations. [I will refer you to] a statement that was made by Dr Butrus Gahli himself in an interview that AL-AHRAM published on Tuesday, 21 August 1979. Dr Butrus Chali says, "The statements made by Moshe Dayan create difficulties and obstacles." This is a statement by an Egyptian government official. Why would Moshe Dayan create difficulties? Is it because his intentions about the peace treaty are good? Why would he create obstacles? Is it because he wants matters to proceed on the course that was drawn up for them when

the peace treaty was signed? Not at all. For Israel, the peace treaty was not the ultimate objective, but it was rather a stage in the process of realizing [its] greedy, illegitimate and irrational ambitions.

Then look at how the process of normalizing relations between Egypt and Israel is proceeding. One of the means by which relations are to be normalized is to simplify the measures that would enable Israelis to enter Egypt. The entry of Egyptians into Israel would be the other side of the equation [and such entry would be granted], without favor or niggardliness. But when was the Jews' treatment of others or of Jews like themselves based on justice, equality and consideration of both parties' interests? It is impossible. A Jew will not accept any transaction, whether it be commercial, economic, political, social or military, wherein he does not have the upper hand. At the same time a Jew strives for having the other party to the transaction lose.

Dr Butrus Ghali says in the same interview that 242 Jews came to Egypt after the treaty. Do you know how many Egyptians went to Israel in return for this number? One Egyptian. Don't be surprised. It is not Israel that made a mistake here, but rather the Egyptian government which accepted this situation in its concern for normalizing relations. Does the normalization of relations mean that Israel reap all the benefits and Egypt reap none? This position requires that the government of Dr Mustafa Khalil be questioned specifically on how can such a situation be acceptable and why is it acceptable? What is the price that we received in return as a result of this huge difference [in number] between those who enter the other's country from the two governments? Mr Butrus Ghali goes on to add in the same interview, "What is even more serious is the fact that Israel has created administrative obstacles to prevent Egyptian ideas--newspapers, books, records--from entering Israel." Israel is not satisfied with preventing the entry of Egyptians into Israel for the purpose of normalizing the so-called relations between them, but it goes beyond that to the extreme of preventing Egyptian newspapers, books and tapes from entering Israel.

Once more, why do we accept this unfair and unequal situation? The imminent danger to Egypt from an agreement with Israel becomes evident when we read what Dr Butrus Ghali says in the same interview: "In spite of the fact that we agreed that Egyptian and Israeli airplanes were not to be permitted to fly between the two countries before relations were normalized, we are surprised every few days with Israeli requests to fly and to land private Israeli and other airplanes. This contradicts what has been agreed to and is an attempt to impose a de facto situation.

#### Indications

Tell me the truth, Dr Butrus, how did you permit the publication of such an interview? It has special meanings which we need not touch upon.

First of all, why did you permit an attempt to impose a de facto situation on Egypt that was to Israel's advantage? Does this permission represent

impotence or consent? What will people say about such a situation? The government has been entrusted with the public's interest, and such a situation is not in Egypt's interest, and this is acknowledged by Dr Butrus. Does such talk constitute praise for the Egyptian government or is it criticism of it? I don't know. However, in the interests of the existing cabinet, I believe that a convincing explanation for such conduct should be offered to the people. I myself appreciate the factors that would place the government of Egypt in such a position, but I do believe that death in defending our homes would be better than living in those homes in this manner.

Dr Mustafa Khalil, call upon the 40 million Egyptians to fight a holy war to regain our rights. Let 30 million heroic, brave fighters die for this cause so that 10 million can live the life of proud, free men who do not consent to humiliation regardless of the price that must be paid to remove it and to remove its fearful dangers. The conduct of Israel provides adequate, legitimate justifications for us to turn away from the course of proceeding with them on the peace treaty. They want this peace treaty to be a passe partout through which they can realize all their ambitions. Although the West, chiefly the United States, did praise our interest in peace, westerners will respect us when we take the position of regarding as inexpensive everything that we pay for a free and noble life; and when we prove that the heroes of al-Quadisiyah, Hattin and 'Ayn Jalut did bring forth men who achieved what they themselves had achieved before them. "You shall be bereaved of your possessions and dear ones, and be subjected to the insults of the pagans and of those to whom the Scriptures were given before you. But if you endure with fortitude and guard yourselves against evil, you shall surely triumph" [The Imrans: 186].

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CSO: 4802

EGYPT

CENTER FOR ISLAMIC RESEARCH, STUDIES DESCRIBED

Cairo AL-DA'WAH in Arabic Oct 79 p 62

[Article: "The Center for Islamic Research and Studies"]

[Text] Almost 3 years ago while preparations were being made for the new format of AL-DA'WAH, the idea of establishing a center for Islamic Research and Studies was adopted. Noble and blessed efforts were joined closely with valuable experiences and sincere enthusiasm to complete the project. Unexpected circumstances, however, and among them was the travel or transfer abroad or to other areas of a group of those who were implementing the idea and were completing the project, forced postponement of the project. The plans, the lofty purposes and the goals of the idea did, however, continue to live on in people's minds.

After AL-DA'WAH moved to its new location, the idea began to press itself again especially since the importance and the significance of the center as well as the extent to which it can be useful to Islamic thought on all levels had become evident. The utility of such a center had become evident through our sense of the dangerous ideas that were being thrust on the intellectual scene. These ideas glorified falsehoods, spoke highly of shamelessness and committed crimes against truths. These ideas attacked the truth and advocates on their own turf. Accordingly, attempts were begun anew to forge the idea, to bring it into the realm of execution and to overcome all the obstacles so that the objective can be achieved and the target attained.

The truth is that the primary role in this matter, as it is in every matter, depends upon young Moslems. The new stimuli that the project attained until it became an entity were the result of the efforts, the sacrifices, the donations and the grants of young people. The truth also is that these stimuli were and will continue to be for the sake of God. Those who were behind them seek nothing but to please God and to struggle for his sake. Is not the presentation of true Islamic thought and its communication to people's minds and understandings in pure and unadulterated form so that all other alien thoughts, all other imported theories and all other covered deceptions would crumble an effort for truth and action for its sake?

#### A Huge Responsibility

The Center for Islamic Studies and Research carries out its duties and is aware of the tremendous responsibility that rests on it. Understood correctly Islam is a comprehensive mission and a complete system that cannot be divided into parts: religion and politics, sociology and economics, faith and conduct, rites of worship and transactions.

True Islamic thought must play its role in firmly implanting in people's minds the correct features and the correct dimensions of the religion. It is for this purpose that officials of the Center for Islamic Research and Studies who understand its mission have established the goals for the Center's mission. The following are among the Center's goals.

1. The Center will present the Islamic point of view candidly and clearly in the face of all the problems that are being raised.
2. The Center will carry out Islamic research and studies in all matters that pertain to the Islamic world in our contemporary material world.
3. The Center will provide information and news pertaining to the Islamic world and to the entire world. It will rise above the local level to that of the greater Islamic world, and it will become profoundly and genuinely familiar with what is happening all over the world.
4. The Center will oppose the deceptions that are encroaching upon Islam, the imported ideas, the false theories that promote lies and the cheap attempts to devise intrigues against Islam and its advocates.
5. The Center will provide advice and counsel to those who are in charge in the Moslem world.

#### The Center's System of Operations

The nature, the course and the methodology of the studies at the Islamic Center are Islamic. Their purpose is to offer practical studies and research with an Islamic point of view on all local and worldwide contemporary issues, problems, struggles and developments that are taking place in the Islamic world and in the entire world. The Center has drawn up a plan of action that is operated within a framework. The following are among the features of this plan:

1. [There will be] an annual book about the Islamic world in all its aspects. It will present the problems of the Islamic world, defend its causes, tie its parts together, change the Moslems' view of their world as a single unit, and make an effort to destroy local and national considerations.
2. [There will be] a study of hostile forces.



3. [There will be a study of] the superpowers, their policies and their objectives.
4. [There will be a study of] contemporary notions and values and their place in Islam.
5. [There will be a study of] the problems of the age.
6. [There will be a study of] the position of Islamic jurisprudence on surrounding and impending phenomena.
7. [There will be a study of] theories and ideas.
8. [There will be a study of] Islamic revolutions and other such subjects whose research and presentation the Center finds necessary.

The Center will present its studies briefly on the pages of AL-DA'WAH or in detail in pamphlets, books, articles and reports in style that would, God willing, be beneficial and meet the objective.

The Center for Islamic Studies and Research, which is temporarily located at the offices of AL-DA'WAH Magazine announces that all areas and fields of research and study are open to all Moslems who are striving to serve their religion and to demonstrate its correct features and its genuine attributes. The Center is pleased that it be the agent that brings people's efforts together and that people's efforts be brought together through all the research centers and through all those who are researching the field of Islam for the purpose of achieving the common objective and attaining the single goal. God grants success.

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IRAN

BANI-SADR CALLS FOR CARTER INITIATIVE TO DEFUSE CRISIS

LD131407 Paris LE MONDE in French 10 Nov 79 p 3 LD

[Interview with Foreign Minister Bani-Sadr: "Washington Must Take the Initiative in Ending the Crisis"--Tehran, 8 November]

[Excerpt] Tehran. [Question] Meanwhile, what steps do you plan to take in the present trial of strength with the United States? Do you envisage breaking off diplomatic relations or imposing an oil embargo?

[Answer] At the moment such measures would be premature. Having sparked off the crisis by admitting a criminal--the former shah--into its territory, it is up to the United States to take the initiative in ending the crisis. The United States does not want to hand over the shah to us alive because if we were to put that tyrant on trial his revelations would spark off the scandal of the century--the corrupt and bloody regime which the Americans installed in order to better plunder our country. Moreover, we decided yesterday to publish the documents from the secret archives which have fallen into our hands.

[Question] Do you not think that your cause would be better served if you saved the lives of the hostages and, better still, released them?

[Answer] Contrary to what some people have claimed, there is no question of executing them. Their release depends on the United States. In present circumstances, no Iranian Government whatsoever would be in a position to take such a decision unilaterally. The students seized the U.S. Embassy without consulting with any of the country's authorities--whether the Imam, the Revolutionary Council or the government--who supported them subsequently. Furthermore, they rightly enjoy prodigious popularity in the country. In the interests of all parties concerned President Carter must immediately take an initiative liable to satisfy the Iranians.

CSO: 4900

IRAN

FRENCH INITIATIVE MOOTED IN HOSTAGE CRISIS

LD131409 Paris FRANCE-SOIR in French 13 Nov 79 p 7 LD

[Article by Francois Luizet: "Khomeyni Rejects Mediations of PLO, Pope"]

[Excerpts] Tehran--Early Saturday afternoon the Swedish and Syrian ambassadors and the French and Algerian charges d'affaires went into the U.S. Embassy to meet the hostages. In the absence of Ambassador Raoul Delaye, who is at present in Paris, it was Charge d'Affaires Andre-Louis Amigues who represented France.

On Sunday it was rumored in Tehran that he had met with U.S. Charge d'Affaires Bruce Laingen who is still on the third floor of the Iranian Foreign Ministry under the Islamic guards' "protection."

France Can Play A Role

The French Embassy strongly denied the rumor; nonetheless, some people here think that a French initiative cannot be ruled out. I say initiative and not mediation since mediation implies negotiation and Iran does not intend to negotiate.

On Sunday morning I spoke to Mr Bani-Sadr in that connection: "France can certainly play a role by asking the Americans to agree to hand over the shah to us," he told me. "Moreover, that is what I pointed out to the European ambassadors I received Saturday."

CSO: 4900

IRAN

KHOMAYNI SEEN UNITING ISLAM, OIL FOR HOLY WAR

Madrid ABC in Spanish 21 Oct 79 pp 15, 17, 18

[Article by Antonio Alferez]

[Text] They extract more than half of the world's oil and because of the black gold, they have money and power. Their petrodollars shore up--or could torpedo in 24 hours--the stock markets of London, Paris and New York. They constitute an "unma" (world community) of 750,000 faithful who invoke God in Russian, Chinese, Persian, Turkish, French...and, of course, Arabic. This community has found a new prophet, Khomeyni, who proclaimed some weeks ago: "The Holy War is underway and will not stop until the ultimate victory of our militias and the establishment of universal Islamic power."

An almost 80-year old ascetic with a stern face and an inscrutable glance was able to overthrow an imperial monarch with two millenia of history behind him. Mohammed Reza Pahlevi was unseated by the "Ayatollah," Al Ozma Haj Seyyed Ruhollah al Mussavi al Khomeyni, which in English would mean something akin to "prominent symbol of God," "descendant of the prophet" and "God's representative on earth."

In 1963, shortly after being named "great ayatollah" of Qom, Khomeyni began his lengthy battle against the shah. Some months before, the youthful new president, John Kennedy, his feet perched on the desk in his office at the White House, rudely gave the Iranian emperor this piece of advice: "Your Majesty ought to do something to put an end to feudalism in Iran."

The shah put Kennedy's advice into practice and in 1963 began the so-called "white revolution," which focused on modernizing industry, handing over lands to peasant farmers and carrying out an intensive literacy drive. The modernization was opposed by Khomeyni, but the shah was implacable. Police agents disguised as Muslim theologians drugged Khomeyni, wrapped him in a rug and sent him by plane to Turkey.

#### The Altar Bests the Throne

During Khomeyni's 15 years in exile, the shah successively personified an irresistible rise and a clamorous fall. Reza Pahlevi's ambitious plans gained particular momentum when crude oil prices soared in December 1973. Iran, the world's second largest exporter of oil, began to fill its coffers at breakneck speed. Owing to the quality of their equipment, the Iranian Armed Forces were to become the world's fourth best fighting unit. During the 2,000th anniversary of the Persian Empire the shah staged the Persepolis Festival, blind with the "Cyrus complex." Washington hoped that Reza Pahlevi would become the policeman of the region, but he had even more ambitious plans.

The foundations of the new Iranian empire were, however, too weak. A person would have to be quite short-sighted, like Carter, to assert, as the American president did on New Year's Eve in 1977 at Nievaran Palace in Tehran: "Your country is an island of stability in one of the world's most unstable regions."

The country had not been able to assimilate so much disorderly progress in such a short time. No one, except the speculators, was prepared to make the "big leap." Then came the frustrations, discontents and the first disturbances. The shah had been applying the two basic formulas used by non-democratic rulers to shore up their governments:

--Enrich your people, and they will thank you for it (a 20th century principle);

--Encourage the emotional, nationalistic ritual (19th century principle).

Neither of the formulas ultimately worked out in Iran. And while the shah saw his throne crumbling, Khomeyni was setting in motion his fifth column: the Muslim clergy. Paraphrasing a historic saying, someone said this about Iran: "Religion is the power, not the opium, of the people." The Muslim spiral succeeded in overthrowing a powerful emperor. The extraordinary strength of the Iranian clergy is based on 180,000 "mullahs" (those who reveal the doctrine of the Koran). Above them are the "rowzkbus" (clergymen), "walzs" (preachers), "pishnamans" (those who lead the prayers on Fridays), "hojates-eslam" (theologians) and the "ayatollahs" at the pinnacle of power. In Iran there are 80,000 mosques and 300 seminars with more than 70,000 students. Someone has observed that whereas there is 1 doctor for each 13,000 inhabitants in Iran, there is 1 religious minister for each 183 faithful.

#### The Power of the Mosque

This extensive and well-organized clergy is even more effective because of its traditional influence and economic power. Every Shiite believer

must hand over one-fifth of his earnings to the mosques, which thus take in some 3 billion pesetas a year. The Shiite clergy are also the country's largest landowners, even surpassing Reza Pahlevi when he was on the throne.

The mosque had hoped to gain veto power but in the end it achieved everything: absolute power. Many thought that after his return Khomeyni would move back to the sacred city of Qom and devote himself exclusively to theological tasks. This has not been the case, because although there is a government in Tehran, it is, in reality, a crude pretense. The real power lies with the Ayatollah and his circle at Qom. In a way, Khomeyni is devoting himself to "theological" tasks: he is prepared to make Iran the first Islamic republic in accordance with a theocratic model. Alcohol, modern music, prostitution and drugs have been outlawed; 40 publications have been closed down, and movie theaters have almost no audiences because of the films that they are forced to show.

Twenty percent of the work force is jobless; inflation this year will hit 60 percent; labor costs have risen 45 percent, and every month the country urgently needs 100,000 tons of U.S. wheat.

When the shah fell, thousands of radical Iranian students (who had been sent to various universities around the world on scholarships granted, strangely enough, by Reza Pahlevi himself) returned and soon became disconsolate over the country's scant freedoms and the total lack of jobs. Thousands of women felt a similar disenchantment. They had taken such an active part in the demonstrations against the shah, and now instead of their status improving under Khomeyni, they were relegated to second-class citizenry.

To all of these dissatisfied people Khomeyni issues the following warning: "You will be wiped off the map." This is not rhetorical exaggeration. Almost 500 persons have been brought before the firing squads after very summary proceedings headed up by Islamic committees. In the wake of the overwhelming number of yes votes in the referendum on the Islamic constitution, Khomeyni has been even tougher: "The people have voted in favor of the Islamic Republic. Whoever fails to obey shall be annihilated."

#### Neurotic Interpretation of the Law

Khomeyni is not overly endowed with political imagination. Two books that he wrote more than a decade ago and whose first appearance went totally unnoticed have just been published in Paris. The two show a violent, uncultured and xenophobic prophet, a narrow-minded and almost neurotic interpreter of Muslim law. These books constitute evidence that as long as 10 years ago Khomeyni had established the political groundwork of what he is now putting into practice: "The Islamic

government is the government of divine law above the people; sovereignty comes exclusively from God, and those who have a perfect knowledge of the law officially exercise it. To obey the imams is merely to obey God himself." Moving on to a different topic, Khomeyni's books show a man obsessed with the unclean. He devotes more than 15 articles to the "fundamental" questions of how to urinate, defecate and clean one's sexual organ and anus. He sets forth an entire system of casuistry (the description of which is half naive, half scatological) regarding how to cleanse oneself of feces, blood, urine and sperm. The casuistry regarding cases of bestiality, incest and other deviations is also crazed.

All of this has to a large extent shattered Khomeyni's prestige, and one expert observer of developments in Iran, former Prime Minister Sapur Bakhtiar, has given the Ayatollah's regime 6 months. We fear that Bakhtiar, a Western-educated politician currently residing in Europe, has been influenced by the ambience of Paris and London, from where Khomeyni can be regarded somewhat erroneously as a power-hungry "Islamic Sovonarola" with a politically obsolete ideology. But this is not the mood in the Muslim world, and when Khomeyni asserts that "we Muslims are a single family, even though we live under different governments and in different regions," hundreds of millions of people are stirred, from the coasts of the Sahara on the Atlantic to the Indonesian archipelago in the Pacific.

#### The Failure of the Reformists

The power of Islam has always had a political and military dimension. When the Egyptian Army crossed the Suez Canal during the early hours of the 1973 Yom Kippur War, Sadat's soldiers shouted the legendary "Allah u Akhbar" (God is great), and commentators extolled it as the greatest Arab victory since Saldino (the conqueror of the crusaders!). Politicians have always intelligently used religious power in the Islamic world. Thus, the father of Pakistan, Jinnah, manipulated the hopes and fears and millions of Muslims to break up the British viceroyship in India. Decades ago, a Turkish politician utilized religion as an adversary that had to be cut away from the state; Ataturk secularized Turkey in his yearning to modernize the country. Islam, which in its age of splendor had been in the vanguard of philosophy, the arts and economics, seemed to be an obsolete model incapable of vying with the Christian West or the Marxist East.

Modernization programs tempted many Muslim leaders, who were aware that the Islamic religion "had given everything to God and nothing to Caesar" (the state). Tunisia and Algeria are examples of this modernization, to cite the cases of two countries with quite different political bents. The ultimate results of these "modernizations" have not been too spectacular, and the most that the Islamic countries have achieved is a poor copy of the Western model.

Rightly or wrongly, it is obvious that this old, black-turbaned ayatollah has put an end to the age of the Ataturks, Bourguibas and Boumedienes. It is a return to the source. Khomeyni's image as seen on so many walls in Cairo, Algiers, Tunis or Tripoli is a reality that ought to give us cause to reflect. "We are going to destroy the vestiges of the West, which have only ruined us, and build Mohammed's country," Khomeyni says. And 700 million Islamic believers seem to be following the rallying cry: in Cairo, college youths have requested separate classrooms for the sexes in their departments; in Tunis, gangs of devout young Muslims are waging a public battle against pornography in movie theaters and magazine stands; in Turkey, secular funeral processions are attacked; in Malasia, aroused crowds force the government to de-sanctify 30 Hindu temples; in Afghanistan, the regime, which is a loyal ally of Moscow, is teetering because of nationwide opposition to a secular, atheist government...The Kremlin is monitoring this Islamic spiral with concern: 22 percent of the Soviet Union's population practices the Muslim religion, and at the current demographic growth rate, this community will make up one-third of the Soviet population by the end of the century.

#### A Mosque in Regent's Park

The Christian West has dominated Islam for the last two centuries, both economically and culturally. Today, the Islamic community is beginning to awaken and reject the Western model, its hierarchy of values and its culture. From now on, we will have to take into account the Islamic community between the West and the East. But to what extent? Even though it produces two-thirds of the petroleum exported to the West, the Islamic world rests, for the moment, on flimsy foundations: the GNP of the 29 countries that are officially Muslim accounts for only 5.4 percent of the world GNP, some \$400 billion, approximately equal to France's GNP. Some 80 percent of the Islamic community, which is now returning to its roots, is illiterate (better or worse for Khomeyni's plans?).

In a corner of Regent's Park in London, the finishing touches are being put on a splendid-looking mosque that almost all of the Muslim countries cooperated in building and that cost 500 million pesetas. It is the first major Islamic sanctuary erected on European soil since the Alhambra in Granada during the 13th and 14th centuries. The 50-meter tower that rises above the beautiful London park is a graphic symbol that a new force has emerged in the complicated structure of world power. Khomeyni is the new prophet. The scope of the Islamic awakening is still a question mark.

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IRAN

BANI-SADR BERATES BAZARGAN ADMINISTRATION

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 15 Sep 79 p 11

[Text] 'Abdolhassan Bani-Sadr, a member of the Revolutionary Council and a member of the Council for Higher Study of Basic Law, spoke at a meeting held at Yazd in honor of the late Ayatollah Taleqhani. He also praised Taleqhani before tens of thousands of people in the city's Friday Mosque. At the meeting, Bani-Sadr strongly attacked the Bazargan government, which he called disorganized.

"As far as the government, the Revolutionary Council and the Council of Experts are concerned, until we have the firm support of the Iranian people and are masters of our own fate, we shall face continuing problems. If we continue to follow the present policy, our revolution will end up in a quagmire, just like the previous regime. Therefore, put aside your doubts and get down to work."

Responding to a question from the audience about the role of the Revolutionary Council, Bani-Sadr replied that "the government and the Revolutionary Council exchange members, with five members of each belonging to the other--I am supposed to be one of them, but I do not go to government meetings. I think that this relationship slows down the Revolutionary Council's work. Still, the Council is an independent body. Do not think that no work at all is accomplished; yesterday the government sent 20 new bills to the Revolutionary Council. Nevertheless, things should be better than they are. It is the same disorganization that I am talking about; the government lacks a firm foundation on which to base its work. I said the same thing to the prime minister. I told him that first he had said that the banks face the revolution with ruin, then later he said that the same banks should be nationalized. It is because we are not now in the realm of ideology that I say that the banks should be nationalized. Truly, our economy has less than 20 years to live under the government's current policies, before the oil revenues stop flowing in. However, we have an opportunity to build an Iran that is capable of living on. When the government is disorganized and lacks clear objectives, problems arise."

Bani-Sadr said the following about the prime minister: "What is needed in the government is organization and a sense of purpose. I believe that the government wants to preserve the foundations of the Pahlavi government, only reforming them, and this is the source of the difficulties between it and the Revolutionary Council, with the result that it has become blunted and lost efficiency. Now, in any case, there is a third body, a temporary body set up to codify the basic law, after which it will be changed." Asked why he did not accept a position in the government, Bani-Sadr replied that "if one belongs to a group, one is obliged to defend its collective actions and, if one finds oneself in a minority, accept it and try to convince the others that one is right. I would probably find myself in the minority 90 percent of the time. This is not to say that I should also work outside the Revolutionary Council. Of necessity, I ought to defend the latter, because I am part of it and because it and because its existence is preferable to its nonexistence. My views are fundamentally different from Bazargan's. His government, which is disorganized when it ought to be organized, ought in my opinion to be replaced by another body. 'Reform' is out of the question. I hope that a truly revolutionary government will be set up in the near future."

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CSO: 4906

IRAN

BAZARGAN'S CABINET RESHUFFLED

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 29 Sep 79 p 12

/Text/ Two new posts have been created in the cabinet. Roving Minister assumes responsibility for supervising the internal affairs of the provinces.

Names of New Ministers

Engineer Mehdi Bazargan, Prime Minister of the Provisional Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, reshuffled his cabinet yesterday. The following appointments were made in this cabinet reshuffle: Dr Mostafa Chamran-Minister of Defense; Engineer 'Ali Akbar Mo'infar-Minister of Oil; Engineer 'Ezatollah Sahabi-Minister of State and Supervisor of the Plan and Budget Organization; Dr Hasan Habibi-Acting Minister of Culture and Higher Training; Mohammad 'Ali Reja'i-Acting Minister of Education; 'Ali Espahbodi-Acting Minister of Labor; Dr Yadollah Sahabi-Minister of State for Training and Research; Dr Daryush Foruhar- Roving Minister; and Hoseyn Bani Asadi-Minister of State for Executive Affairs.

Engineer Mehdi Bazargan, Prime Minister of the Provisional Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, sent a message following his cabinet reshuffle yesterday. The text of the Prime Minister's message is as follows:

"My Dear Fellow-Countrymen,

"Although it is Friday afternoon and a holiday, and admittedly administrative matters should not be discussed, as you know, for this cabinet, and for many of my colleagues, both those whom we have selected and have assembled from far and wide, and those who had been in government service previously and have assumed responsibilities and jobs, the issue of Friday being a holiday and such things do not matter much. For many of us, not even night and day matter. Therefore, according to the old proverb that says, 'Whenever you take a fish from the water, it is fresh,' so, too, I want to set forth for you my information on this matter which is governmental and administrative in

nature and is of great interest to you. The matter concerns the cabinet reshuffle which, after the lengthy studies conducted for some time past and the changes that have taken place, must be reported to my fellow-countrymen and to the employees. These names and these individuals were submitted to the Imam two days ago and, tomorrow (today), too, in accordance with the invitation that has been sent, they will be introduced to the cabinet and the Revolutionary Council. A number of the changes result from several resignations of my colleagues, necessitated by various reasons, either illness or exhaustion, other jobs or other responsibilities, and also new needs and problems or the solution of problems which subsequently we encountered in this form.

"In total, I must present six ministerial posts and, tomorrow (today), they will be submitted for approval to the Revolutionary Council. Changes in ministerial posts and their duties will affect three posts." H.E. the Prime Minister then identified the new ministers as follows: Minister of Defense-Dr Mostafa Chamran; Minister of Oil-Engineer 'Ali Akbar Mo'infar; and because the Plan and Budget Organization post will be vacant, Minister of State and Supervisor of the Plan and Budget Organization-Engineer 'Ezatollah Sahabi; Acting Minister of Culture and Higher Training-Dr Hasan Habibi; Acting Minister of Education-Mohammad 'Ali Reja'i, who has been serving as supervisor for the past two weeks; Acting Minister of Labor-Mr 'Ali Espahbodi; Minister of State for Training and Research-Dr Yadollah Sahabi; Roving Minister-Mr Daryush Foruhar; and Minister of State for Executive Affairs-Engineer Hoseyn Bani Asadi. (Note: The Plan and Budget Organization job had always been without rank; now it has Minister of State rank.) Generally, as I have said, the world is nothing but flux and change, and life and living is nothing but motion. These cabinet changes are normal and natural, especially for a country that has carried out the biggest revolution, at least in its history, if not in the history of the world and that revolution, i.e., the upheaval and upset, is accompanied by more changes. During the provisional period and the transition, these fluctuations and changes not only do not arise from chaos and weakness, rather, they are a sign of attending to problems and overcoming difficulties. I will submit to my dear brothers and sisters a brief explanation regarding two of the new ministerial posts. One is the Ministry of Oil. Up to now, we have not had a Ministry of Oil in Iran. We had the Iran National Oil Company, i.e., after the nationalization of oil; we had the National Petrochemical Industries Company; and we had the Iran National Gas Company. Of course, the latter two, gas and petrochemicals, came into existence much later. After the Consortium Agreement (a consortium is many similar and affiliated companies that receive nourishment from the same source), and prior to the time of the deceased Mossadeq, was a treaty that was devised by the English. According to this treaty, we do not have many rights. After the nationalization and the coup d'etat, the consortium became this single, independent and separate entity and, actually, it was under the supervision of the Shah, and the Chairman of the Board of Directors and the Board, itself, were appointed by and took orders from the Shah alone.

"Oil-producing countries have a position in the world and play an essential role, both with respect to producing energy and the effect that has on the world's industries and with respect to the economy of countries which provide for a major part of their income from oil, and, in Iran, from the standpoint of politics and diplomacy. It is not necessary to explain oil's justly-deserved importance to us, both in a positive, useful, and essential sense and in a negative sense with the harm, damage, and difficulties it causes for the country. The idea of an Oil Ministry is only natural and this idea was first broached in the Council of Ministers five months ago. I, myself, pursued this idea of an Oil Ministry; but, in view of the problems and incidents that were occurring every day and which did not provide any opportunity to conduct studies and make a decision so that the groundwork could be done, this job was postponed. Therefore, a ministry called the Ministry of Oil will be established and it will include these three companies for the present, and perhaps later, it will also include mines and other companies. These three companies, as well as the Oil Department in the Ministry of Finance, will come under the standard of the Ministry of Oil. Naturally, this transition cannot take place all at once, in a few days or even a few months, and the activities of the oil, petrochemical and gas sectors cannot suddenly be merged into a ministry like the Ministry of Education. Studies must be conducted. Conditions, methods and capabilities must be provided in order that a new charter and new organizations might be provided for the companies which, either will remain as individual companies, just as the Ministry of Industries and Mines has companies under its supervision and control, or they will be merged into a single ministry. Perhaps, and there is a strong possibility that this will occur, a portion of their activities that have a technical and management aspect will become, technically and economically, companies under the control of the ministry. At present, the Minister of Oil has seized the initiative and has submitted himself and his bill to the Revolutionary Council for approval (probably, during yesterday's session). Nothing is definite yet, but the idea is that he would serve as chairman of the Board of Directors of each of these companies.

"As for the post of Minister of State, I can say that this, too, is a matter that had been raised beginning in the third month of the government because the provisional government did not in any way confine and restrict its interest and attention to the capital, contrary to what some people thought and said. From the very first day, the government's attention was on the more remote provinces because they were more deprived and fewer resources had been placed at their disposal and because, naturally, they are more exposed to the threat of aggression since they are more remote from the capital and are located on the borders and shores of the country. For these two main reasons, I can state that, up to now, both the activities and the attention of the government were directed more toward these centers. Neither the appointment of governors, responsables, and officials nor the repeated trips made by the ministers appeared adequate because we did not have direct communications with the people of this country. As I said, since the third month, we have been trying to designate one of the ministers as an roving minister whose work would be to move about and travel constantly and to supervise the internal

affairs of the provinces, especially the most deprived provinces. Fortunately, now he has been designated. Mr Daryush Foruhar has been appointed to this post. Of course, this is not a ministry that has for itself two floors of offices, an army, and a school. No other ministries are mobile. The departments, too, are mobile, and the responsibilities, too, are specified. The Department of Education, for example, in Sanandaj, is subordinate to the Ministry of Education and the governor is subordinate to the Ministry of Interior. This roving minister, however, as I proposed in Monday's session of the Council of Ministers and as was approved, basically will designate from each ministry one deputy and one informed, experienced and empowered director-general. These people will form a committee which will travel to the provinces en masse, or in whatever number is deemed necessary, and there, on the spot, this committee will study the problems and difficulties, both those submitted by the people and those submitted by the subordinate departments, themselves, because, contrary to the accusations being leveled against them (and some people are very unkind), it is not true that they do not want to work and that the atmosphere of the departments, especially in the provinces, is an atmosphere of disinterested idleness. They, too, have financial, technical, and managerial problems, etc., and this committee will provide a link with several ministries. We saw this problem during last Sunday's trip to Khuzistan. In Khuzistan, the governor general had assembled all of the department heads and directors general in the municipal hall and they discussed their problems and difficulties and everyone demonstrated great interest and the utmost sense of responsibility. How much better and sounder this is, because their requests and problems will be communicated to the ministries.

"These are the decisions that were pondered and, God willing, and of course, after obtaining the permission of the Imam, our high-ranking leader of the revolution, we will take action in the easiest way. May the grace and favor of God, the cooperation and interest of the people and the backing of the local people be such that we will be able to steer the prosperous and hopeful ship of state through this rough and stormy sea of the world and Iran to safe, happy, and prosperous shores."

#### Biographies of the New Ministers

Engineer 'Ezatollah Sahabi, Minister of State and Supervisor of the Plan and Budget Organization, was born in 1309 [21 March 1930-20 March 1931] and, in 1331 [21 March 1952-20 March 1953], he graduated from the Technical College at Tehran University. Upon entering the university, he joined the Islamic Students Society and he was considered one of the society's most active members. In the year 1332 [21 March 1953-20 March 1954], when the National Resistance Movement was formed, Sahabi joined that organization and because of this he was imprisoned twice. He was dismissed from his government job (he was an employee of the National Bank) and he began working free-lance, but he remained active in Islamic societies. In 1340 [21 March 1961-20 March 1962], when the Iran Freedom Movement Society was formed, Sahabi joined and, while carrying on activities for this organization, in 1342 [21 March 1963-20 March 1964] he was sentenced to prison. After his release from prison,

Sahabi began to cooperate with and assist the active organizations of that time, until 1350 / 21 March 1971-20 March 1972 / when he was imprisoned for the fourth time and was sentenced to an 11-year term. The new Minister of State and Supervisor of the Plan and Budget Organization was released from prison along with other fellow-fighters in the month of Aban 1357 / 23 October-21 November 1978 /.

Dr Chamran-Minister of Defense

Dr Mostafa Chamran, the new Minister of Defense, previously held the post of Deputy Prime Minister for Revolutionary Affairs and he was among the active members of the government involved in the Kurdistan events.

Dr Chamran was born in 1310 / 21 March 1931-20 March 1932 / and he spent his Middle School and College years at Tehran University. He then left for America to continue his studies. Chamran began his political activities with the National Movement and, during the attack on the National Movement, he was arrested along with 86 people, among them Dr Shari'ati and Taher Ahmadzadeh. Then, along with Dr Yazdi and Ghotbzadeh, he founded the Islamic Society of America and Europe. In 1342 / 21 March 1963-20 March 1964 /, he went to Egypt and joined the guerrilla fighting. In 1970, he left America with his family and went to Lebanon. He is one of the founders of the Amal Movement which, in fact, had been the military branch of the Movement of the Deprived. He returned to Iran after the revolution.

Daryush Foruhar-Roving Minister

Daryush Foruhar, the new Minister of Labor / sic /, began his political activities in earnest in 1327 / 21 March 1948-20 March 1949 /. In that year, he, along with several other people, formed the Pan-Iranist Party; but, later, in 1329 / 21 March 1950-20 March 1951 /, Foruhar separated from the Pan-Iranists and established the Iran Peoples Party, which was based on Pan-Iranism, and he served as its leader.

During Dr Mohammad Mossadeq's campaign, Foruhar supported Mossadeq's National Government. In 1332 / 21 March 1953-20 March 1954 /, he was wounded and hospitalized.

During the Iranian people's struggles of recent years, Foruhar was imprisoned on several occasions.

Until a few months ago, Foruhar had served as the National Front spokesman; but, after he was appointed Minister of Labor and Social Affairs, he resigned as the National Front spokesman. On 28 Ordibehesht / 18 May /, he severed his cooperation with the National Front.

Habibi-Acting Minister of Culture and Higher Training

Hasan Habibi was born in Tehran and pursued his intermediate studies at the Polytechnic Institute. Later, he was admitted to the university and he obtained

a doctorate in the field of law. He was actively involved with PEYAM-E DANESHJU, which in those days reflected the views of the National Front, and he was a member of its editorial board. In 1343 [ 21 March 1964-20 March 1965 ], he went to France and continued his education in the field of legal sociology. In Paris, the Imam Khomeini entrusted to him the drafting of the preliminary text of the draft constitution.

In addition to political activities, Habibi is considered one of the prominent intellectuals. A few of his works and translations are cited below:

1. DIALECTIC (translation)-written by George Govarich
2. LEGAL SOCIOLOGY (translation)-written by Georg Govarich
3. Social Reports (translation)-written by George Govarich
4. He has also written a grammar, and the compilation of the collected works of the martyred militant, Dr 'Ali Shari'ati, took place under his supervision.

#### Mo'infar-Minister of Oil

Engineer 'Ali Akbar Mo'infar, Minister of the new Ministry of Oil, previously was Minister of State and Supervisor of the Plan and Budget Organization. Mo'infar was born in Tehran in 1307 [ 21 March 1928-20 March 1929 ] and he completed his studies for a licentiate degree in the field of road and construction engineering at Tehran University. Later, in Japan, he earned his doctorate in the field of road and construction engineering and became an expert in seismology.

The new Minister of Oil previously was a professor at the Technical College, advisor to the Office of the Technical Assistant of the Plan Organization, and Chief of the Office of Technical Research and Standards. Mo'infar is also a senior expert in the Ministry of Justice.

#### Espahbodi-Minister of Labor and Social Affairs

'Abdul 'Ali Espahbodi, the new Minister of Labor and Social Affairs, was born in Mashhad in the month of Shahrivar 1318 [ 23 August-22 September 1939 ]. He pursued his higher education at the Law College in the field of political science. He later received a doctorate in economics from Tehran University.

Espahbodi's first government job was in the Ministry of Housing and City Planning, but he subsequently joined the private sector.

In addition to his work experience, the new Minister of Labor had been a political prisoner for a while.



New Minister of Labor; "Unemployment Will Be Eliminated; Labor Law Will Be Revised"

'Abdul 'Ali Espahbodi, the new Minister of Labor of the Provisional Government of the Islamic Republic, who was appointed to this post yesterday by Engineer Mehdi Bazargan, in his first conversation with KEYHAN, said that the Labor Law will be revised. He added that the law will be revised in such a way that the rights of workers and employers alike will be preserved.

The new Minister of Labor and Social Affairs said with regard to increasing the level of employment and solving the unemployment problem that a plan would be prepared in cooperation with other organizations and would be submitted to the Economic Council and, if approved, it would be implemented.

In continuing the conversation with KEYHAN, Espahbodi said that establishing an unemployment fund would be a depressant and that we must draft economic programs to boost the level of employment instead.

He said, "We must give political training to the workers so that we can improve the level of production."

The Minister of Labor continued, "Unfortunately, inefficiency exists in the factories, and we are trying to improve the level of production by devising new programs."

Daryush Foruhar: "New Post Requires Planning"

Daryush Foruhar, Minister of State and Roving Minister, who had gone to the Ministry of Labor today to say goodbye and to introduce the new Acting Minister of Labor and Social Affairs, told KEYHAN reporters regarding his future plans, "The post turned over to me, Minister of State and Roving Minister, is a new post and study and planning are needed to determine its duties and suitable programs. As of today, I will be busy studying so that I can get on with the job."

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CSO: 4906

IRAN

'BAMDAD' REPORTS ON CIVIL DISORDERS AROUND THE COUNTRY

LD091309 [Editorial Report LD] Tehran BAMDAD in Persian 4 November gives a roundup on page 2 of news received by telephone from the provinces: From Hamadan it is reported that technical school students are refusing to go to class for the next 4 days and threaten a hunger strike thereafter. Their demands are chiefly concerned with syllabus changes.

The governor-general's office in Bushehr is reported to have been occupied by unemployed school-leavers since last Tuesday, and work there is at a standstill. Their demands relate to certain administrative reforms, including the retirement of staff who have been in their posts, for over 20 years and their replacement with unemployed graduates.

It is reported by the Pars News Agency from Kerman that unemployed school-leavers have staged demonstrations in various parts of the city demanding work, finally delivering a petition to the governor-general's office.

Construction workers at Mahmudabad employed by the B.I.M. Construction Company which employs one-third of the city's workforce, are reported to have gone on strike.

The Bazar at Qom is said to have closed down in protest at the assassination of Ayatollah Tabatabai'i.

Unemployed workers in Gilan Province staged a sitdown in the governor-general's office in Rasht, while unemployed school-leavers in Nurabad Namasani have locked the doors of the governor's office, the Education Ministry, the district court and the city hall, bringing these organizations to a standstill.

CSO: 4906

IRAN

TRIBAL LEADER WARNS OF 'EXPLOSIVE' SITUATION IN FARS PROVINCE

LD091049 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 5 Nov 79 p 9 LD

[Article by Ali Rafi'i: "Khosrow Qasgqa'i: 'The Landlords and Peasant Farmers Are Being Incited Against Each Other'"]

[Excerpts] In a discussion with KEYHAN correspondent Ali Rafi'i, Fars Province Qashqa'i Tribal Chief Khosrow Washqa'i, now in Tehran to present demands by the Fars tribes more effectively, gave a warning of the danger of conflict in the province of Fars. He said: I have remained in Tehran for some time now in the hope that the government might do something to carry out development projects in the nomadic tribal areas of Fars, but nothing has happened up to now. I am slowly coming to believe that for so long as there is no actual clash and loss of life, the government will do nothing.

However, I must warn that the Fars region is about to explode. Regrettably, certain government officials are acting in a provocative manner and wish to incite landlords and peasant farmers against each other. A week ago I met the Imam and reported to him on the situation in the Fars Province, in Bashehr, Yasuj and Buyer Ahmad. The Imam asked me to safeguard the security of the region, and we will do this with all our might, but the people have demands which must be considered.

I replied to the Imam that on the basis of promises given to us by the government, we in turn made promises to the people, and now that the government has not kept its promises the people regard us in an unfavourable light.

It is because of the affection that the people have had for us [presumably the chief's family] that they have maintained security without expecting anything, but if this affection should be lost and the people's demands are not met, who will be able to guarantee the security of the Fars region?

In short, the people have become rebellious, and I do not believe that the government has the courage to take revolutionary action.

Elsewhere, in a strong attack on Fars officials, he said: They have no intention whatever of fulfilling the demands of the people. Basically, some of them are incapable and others were only exiled here because of their foreign associations.

I fear the day when the people may rise up and demand exclusive apportionment for themselves of the revenues from oil and gas, or take matters into their own hands and say "now that the government can do nothing, we must act ourselves."

In short, considering the nonimplementation of decisions we [presumably the tribal chief's family] made for the tribes, let us see what the people themselves decide: We are with the people.

On the Kordestan issue, Khorsrow Gashqa'i said: "I was ready from the outset to go to Kordestan and negotiate with them, since we share common problems with the Kurds. We believe that the Kurdish people are in the right, but neither we nor any of the people of Iran accept separatism."

CSO: 4906

IRAN

MAJOR REBEL RADIO STATION CAPTURED IN MAHABAD

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 5 Sep 79 p 3

[Text] Forty-eight hours after the arrival of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic and the Revolutionary Guards, Mahabad still has not regained its normal appearance, and this is at a time when all of the hills overlooking the city, roads leading to the city and strategic points of the city are being strictly controlled by the military forces and the Revolutionary Guards.

Mohammad Narimisa'i and Mehdi Rezvan, the reporter and photographer sent by KEYHAN yesterday, have arrived in Mahabad. The report that Narimisa'i filed last night stated that the businessmen of the city are gradually opening the stores and the behavior of many of them showed that they seemed happy about the arrival of the Army and Guards personnel. The owner of a grocery store told the reporter sent by KEYHAN: "You want the truth? We had become tired of the situation that had developed for us. They told us we must fight. They did not say, however, against whom we should fight and why we should fight. The Democratic Party said that the Kurds must get autonomy, but it did not explain what autonomy would mean and what use autonomy would be to us. I certainly do not know if autonomy is a good thing, but I am puzzled as to why these gentlemen did not speak up during the reign of the satanic regime. Some of them even collaborated wholeheartedly with the ringleaders of the regime. I do know that the Kurdish people have been treated unjustly. They never give a thought to expansion and development here. Now, if the Government of the Islamic Republic is speaking honestly, it will take steps to repair the damages in this province instead of just talking and making promises and threats. We do not want to quarrel with anyone. If they develop our city and region, we will bless them."

The reporter sent by KEYHAN, further to his report, added, "Yesterday, when I was giving the minute by minute report to KEYHAN, I did not have an opportunity to explain to you the full details and manner of arrival of the Army in Mahabad. This was because I never imagined that the Army and the Guards would reach Mahabad so easily because there had been rumors for the

past few days concerning the fact that all of the strategic points, hills, and even the rooftops of the houses of Mahabad had been fortified by the Democrats and they had announced that they would stand against the Army and the Guards until the last man. Today, however, when I arrived in Mahabad, I realized the emptiness of these rumors. There was no resistance; nor did the ordinary people of the city quarrel with the Army. There is no sign of fortifications behind the houses or on the roofs. Finally, I did not understand the source of these rumors. This is not an exaggeration. I have spoken with many of the residents of Mahabad. They are very kind people and, like all Iranians, they love their country; but, because the governments of the previous regime did not take any positive steps on their behalf, now that the Islamic Revolution has been victorious, they expect the government to help them and, more than anyone else, they expect the Imam Khomeini, the leader of the Islamic Revolution, with his characteristic decisiveness, to issue emphatic orders to the government to develop this region. That is all there is to it.

"Before stating my conclusions from my conversations with the people of Mahabad, I will describe how the Army entered this city.

"Army units entered the city of Mahabad from two directions: one, from the Naqdeh-Mahabad crossroads and, the other, by way of the Manjil Garrison from the Maragheh-Mahabad road. The unit that was moving by way of Maragheh-Miandoab to occupy Mahabad reached the gate of the city at approximately 1300 hours the day before yesterday, and it deployed at that same location. Concurrent with the deployment of this unit, airborne, Green Beret, and strike units undertook the strike jobs and, while clearing the area, they occupied all of the Democrats' trenches.

"Colonel Kazem Niknam, commander of the forces sent to Mahabad via the Naqdeh crossroads, told reporters, 'We were fully informed about the situation and location of the Democrats' weapons. Our objective was to select a tactic that would enable us to inflict the greatest blow, with the least casualties, on the armed elements of the Democratic Party in order that their ability to fight would be lost and dissipated. Thus, with air support and with the protection of helicopters, at 0900 hours the day before yesterday, swift and decisive attacks by the forces sent began. We encountered, however, bombs and explosive traps that had been planted all along the axis. Along our way, we encountered the modern weapons that had fallen into the hands of the Democrats from the Mahabad Brigade, modern weapons such as tanks, rocket launchers, and 106mm guns. The more we advanced, the less resistance the Democrats showed, and they just put their weapons down and fled. Finally, at 1400 hours, the day before yesterday, we took the hills overlooking Mahabad, and one hour later, a column of the forces sent arrived at the Mahabad Garrison.

'Many weapons and implements of war were left behind by the Democrats in Mahabad Garrison and one could name tanks, 106mm guns and a large number of military vehicles.'

"Colonel Niknam added, 'All of the buildings in the Mahabad Garrison had been mined and booby-trapped, and the Democrats intended by this inhumane action to cowardly eliminate soldier brothers who had come to the area to establish security and peace. Fortunately, however, as a result of total vigilance, the mines were neutralized by experts of the Army of the Islamic Republic. Moreover, the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran, in a night attack, pounded the positions of the Democrats west of the Mahabad Garrison, and this attack terrified the Democrats and greatly assisted the advance of the columns sent. The ground forces also enjoyed the full support and cover of helicopters and Phantom aircraft.'

"He added, 'The day before the Army arrived in Mahabad, the Democrats entrenched in the garrison set afire several of the garrison's buildings with their contents. After deployment in the garrison, army personnel began to extinguish the fires.' It had been said earlier that the Mahabad Garrison had been set on fire by the rockets launched by Cobra helicopters. Colonel Niknam said, 'The important thing now is to preserve security along the axes of the region because it is feared that, at any moment, Democrats fleeing along the Sardasht-Pasveh axis or roads leading to the villages will inflict a blow on Mahabad and prevent reconstruction of the city; but, we have taken precautionary and protective measures to prevent any probable attack by the Democrats.'

"Major Mahmud Ardalan, Commander of the unit sent which infiltrated into Mahabad via Miandoab-Mahabad fork, said, 'We reached the gate of the city at 1300 hours, the day before yesterday and we occupied the hills and heights immediately. Our column consisted of units of the 176th Battalion at Manjil, the strike group of the Green Berets' special airborne forces from Tehran, the 185th Battalion from Qazvin and one unit of the 221st Battalion of the Ahvaz Division with one 203 millimeter battery, one 155 millimeter battery, and one 23 millimeter battery from Maragheh, and we were supported by aircraft and helicopters as we deployed. One tank, one 105 millimeter cannon, a large quantity of weapons and munitions of various types, 50 caliber anti-aircraft pipes, and a complete mine detecting device were found by the strike units of the Green Berets' special airborne forces, which were responsible for clearing along the first line.' At this point, one of the correspondents asked Major Mahmud Ardalan, 'How is your position here?' He said, 'In reality, we did not do any regular fighting, rather, we embarked on guerrilla and anti-guerrilla fighting, and the personnel who have come to this region are completely familiar with the area. I am sure that the Army personnel will not be deceived in any way by the tricks of guerrilla fighting.'

"Then the commander of the operations unit of the Green Berets' special airborne forces said regarding the method of operation:

'At 0900 hours, the day before yesterday, we were ordered to move toward Mahabad and, under the title, strike forces, we set off for Mahabad with the mobile armored column. Our battalion was the first team that arrived in Mahabad and, after arriving, it was deployed immediately in all of the hills and strategic points of the city. Although elements of the Democratic Party

fired upon us with mortars, cannon, 106 millimeter guns, and tanks along the route of our advance, fortunately, we continued our advance without suffering any casualties and we occupied the strategic points east and south of Mahabad. At 1730 hours, an armored personnel carrier company and the Green Berets were on their way to the hills overlooking the city which are strategic sites. Although scattered firing was directed toward us along the way, we succeeded in capturing one self-propelled cannon from Democratic Party elements. After deployment in the hills, we searched the area and discovered a number of radios, some munitions, communist literature and manifestos.'

"He added, 'At 0800 hours, yesterday, while our personnel were scanning the interior of the city with field glasses from the hills above, they became suspicious of one house. This house had belonged to the dissolved Rastakhiz Party and was the site of the dissolved Democratic Party's operations staff.'

#### Most Powerful Radio Discovered

"A group of Green Berets set out for the aforementioned house. Along the way, they were fired upon with Kalashnikovs and machine guns, but they arrived at the house without suffering any casualties, and the Green Berets occupied the house. Inside the house, three long-range radios, which were capable of reaching the most far-flung areas of the world, even America, were confiscated by the Green Berets.

"Other munitions found included a number of Templar-81 mortar launchers, MG1A3 machine guns, 50 caliber rifle barrels, a large number of field radios, two mine detectors, night-viewing binoculars, small and large caliber ammunition, several thousand anti-personnel mines that were made in Israel, fuses and detonators, a large quantity of packaged provisions, including potatoes, beans, rice, flour, various types and varieties of compote, sugar, alcoholic beverages, a large number of files, several cartons of assembled molotov cocktails, an Army vehicle which had been parked in front of the building, a large number of airborne uniforms of the paratrooper unit, gas masks, tear gas grenades, telephone headquarters equipment, a teletype, various maps, subversive documents, files on Democratic Party elements and members of the Feday-e Khalq guerrillas, backpacks, and berets that had been stolen from personnel of the Mahabad Garrison. These items will be turned over to the division.

"Today (yesterday), at 1000 hours, a group was despatched along the route south-east of Mahabad to search and they discovered a large quantity of Colt cartridges, gas masks, mine detectors, anti-personnel mines, fuses, detonators, individual tents, radios, field telephones, aerial communication radios, and mortar launchers, and the owner of the house where these munitions were found was arrested.

"One of the Green Berets sent the following message to the inhabitants of Mahabad via the Pars News Agency:

'We are Iranian Green Berets and we are your brothers. We are serving this country. You, the people of Mahabad, can continue your life with peace of mind protected by the security that we, accompanied by brother Guards, have provided for you.'



"Captain Turkoman, Commander of the special airborne forces from Tehran, spoke with the correspondents and said, 'At 0900 hours yesterday (the day before yesterday), we moved 20 kilometers from Miandoab in armored vehicles of the Qazvin Division sent from Manjil to reinforce the army forces. We were fired upon three times between Miandoab and Mahabad. We searched all of the villages along our route. The houses were empty of residents, and, in several homes, we found large quantities of munitions, and between 40 and 60 people were arrested.'

#### Conversation With Abusharif

"Abusharif, the operations commander of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps of Iran, at 1900 hours yesterday, at the site of deployment of the Corps in Mahabad, said in a conversation with reporters concerning the actions taken in the area, especially Mahabad, 'Yesterday afternoon, after a series of battles we had with anti-revolutionary elements along the way, under fire of the artillery of anti-revolutionary elements, we arrived safely in the city of Mahabad and only one of our brothers was wounded at the entrance to the city.' He said, 'We understand from the contacts that we have had as of this morning with the local authorities and representatives of the people that everyone is happy and pleased about the arrival of the armed forces of the Islamic Republic and the Guards, and they expressed their peace of mind after six months of anxiety and disturbance. Now, all of the roads entering and leaving the city are open, and those inhabitants who had sought refuge in the mountains because of the threats of the dissolved Democratic Party are gradually arriving in the city.'

'Conditions in the city of Mahabad were completely normal today, and the people welcomed the armed columns of the Army and the Guards in the streets and distributed fruits and sweets among them.' Abusharif added, 'Today, at the request of the governor of the city, we sent a message to the people of Mahabad in a radio-television interview, and we said that the propaganda that anti-revolutionaries had spread against the Guards there is false and unfounded and that the Guards had arrived in the city to preserve freedom and order and to establish security and, as soon as the security organizations and the gendarmerie could resume their normal work, the duties of the Guards sent would be turned over to the local responsible organizations and Guards.' Abusharif added, 'With the actions that have been taken, it is expected that the Guards sent will soon be able to return to their own locals.'

"Abusharif expressed the hope that, with the efforts of all of the people of Mahabad, subsequent to clearing the area, development operations would begin. Regarding the scarcity of public necessities and fuel, he announced that several tankers of fuel needed will be brought to the city from Miandoab.

"Abusharif said, 'Just as we have done in Paveh, Saqqez, Marivan, and other cities of central Kurdistan, in Mahabad, too, provisions and public necessities will be provided and will be turned over free of charge to the underprivileged and needy.'

"Abusharif added, 'Finally, my message to the people of Kurdistan, and especially to the people of Mahabad is that they should take an example from their great Kurdish brother, Saladin Ayubi, and, just as this brave, courageous military leader fought for years against the enemies of Islam to establish the glorious flag of Islam in defense of dear Palestine and advanced up to the heart of Europe, we, too, in union and solidarity with all of the Moslems of Iran and the world, will strive for the holy goals of Islam. Saladin Ayubi was a Moslem before he was a Kurd, and no distinction is made in Islam among Turk, Kurd and Arab. (Inmal mo'men Ikhwah) All of us are brothers and Moslems and we must not be deceived by the divisive propaganda of the enemies of Islam.'

#### Arrest of 15 Democrats

"After the occupation of Mahabad by personnel of the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Guards sent from Area 13, Esfahan and Sanadaj, arrived in the city.

"This same report states that, concurrent with the search conducted by the Green Berets in the hills overlooking the city, the Guards arrived and pursued a number of people who were fleeing, and they arrested 15 people who are members of the Democratic Party.

"During searches of the residences of these people, two rifles, one Colt, a number of cartridges, hand grenades and a large number of various communiques from Sheikh 'Ezaddin Hoseyni and the Feday-e Khalq Guerrilla organization were found.

#### Despatch of Division Column to Oshnaviyeh

"A column from the 64th Division at Orumiyeh (Rezaiyeh) left for Oshnaviyeh at the request of that city's people. The Governor of West Azerbaijan, who accompanied the Commander of the 64th Division of Orumiyeh and the column sent to Oshnaviyeh, met in the municipal office of the town of Naqdeh with His Eminence Moharer, the Friday Imam of the Shias of this town, and he spoke with him concerning regional problems.

"The Governor of West Azerbaijan then began to talk with Mullah Saleh Rahimi, religious leader of the Kurds of Naqdeh. While condemning the actions of those who incited the Gardaneh Doab incident, which resulted in the martyrdom of 15 of the fighters of the town of Naqdeh, Mullah Saleh asked the governor to reinforce the responsible armed forces in the region in order to guarantee the region's security as much as possible. While referring to the unfortunate incident in the village of Qarna in which a group of irresponsible armed people, in retaliation for the blood shed by the martyrs of Gardaneh Doab, killed 68 of the inhabitants of this village, Mullah Saleh said, 'We are all convinced that the dissolved Democratic Party of Kurdistan has betrayed both the Kurdish people and the people of Iran; but no one person can assume the guilt of another person.' In continuing his speech, he said, 'The innocent people who were martyred in the village of Qarna were all believers in the Islamic Revolution. Their only crime was that they were Kurds.'

"Mr Haqgu, while expressing deep regret about this incident, said, 'One cannot attribute such acts to the government nor to Islam, and the people who committed this crime are neither revolutionaries nor true followers of the Imam.'

"Haqgu added, 'I promise you that we will pursue the perpetrators of this incident immediately and punish them.' General Tahirnezhad, commander of the 64th Division at Orumiyeh, who also attended this meeting, said, 'We are not protectors of killers; rather, we defend the laws.' He promised the Kurdish representatives of Naqdeh that he would guarantee the security of all Kurdish brothers and sisters in Naqdeh by stationing a special force in this city."

#### Villagers from around Mahabad Take Refuge in the City

Mahabad--Pars News Agency--The team sent by the Pars News Agency to the west of the country observed in the city of Mahabad that a number of refugees who have taken refuge in the city from surrounding villages, and there are approximately 1000 of them, have chosen to live in one of the schools of this city. These refugees, who have come to the city from the villages Qarashalaq, Qarah Dag, Kuzeh Karzeh, Gordi Yaqub, Dabeshqaneh, Kehneh Deh, Khor Khoreh, and Qezel Qufi, said that they had come to the city because of the attacks that had taken place on their villages. It still is not clear where these attacks originated.

According to the report of the correspondents sent by the Pars News Agency to the west of the country, "As of 1730 hours yesterday when the report was filed, we still had not been able to learn what actions had been taken by the responsible authorities to return these refugees to their villages. We did observe, however, in the city that those residents who had evacuated their homes are gradually returning to the city from the mountains. In a conversation between the committee sent and some of the people of the city, it became clear that the city is in dire need from the standpoint of fuel items and some food items."

#### Request for Demonstrations

Yesterday afternoon, the public relations office of the 64th Division of Orumiyeh announced that the commander of the Pasveh Garrison announced in a telephone contact with the 64th Division of Orumiyeh that the inhabitants of villages and prominent people around Pasveh had called on the garrison and requested permission to hold demonstrations in support of the high ranking leader of Iran's Islamic Revolution, the Imam Khomeini, and the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran and condemning the actions of the dissolved Democratic Party of Kurdistan.

The public relations office of the 64th Division of Orumiyeh said that these demonstrations will be held if the commander of the 64th Division of Orumiyeh approves.

#### Occupation of the Khan Pass

Yesterday afternoon, a spokesman for Dr Chamran, Deputy Prime Minister for Revolutionary Affairs, said in a telephone call to the Pars News Agency, "At 1300 hours today, the difficult and dangerous Khan Pass, several kilometers from Baneh, was opened by the armed forces and strike forces, and the whole area from Saqqez to Baneh and south of that area have come under the control of the Army." He announced in this telephone call, "Thus, the biggest base of the enemies of the Revolution has fallen."

#### Bodies of Martyred Guards Transported

Yesterday afternoon, the bodies of three of the Guards sent from Tehran to the western area of the country, who had been martyred in the clash with armed personnel of the dissolved Democratic Party of Kurdistan around the town of Baneh, were transported to Sanandaj.

The bodies of these three martyrs are in the morgue of the 200-bed hospital for the present and they will be transported to Tehran at the first opportunity.

These three martyrs had been members of Deputy Prime Minister Chamran's group.

#### Governor's Communique

This communique was issued yesterday by the Governor of West Azerbaijan:

"Kurdish Moslem Brothers and Sisters in Mahabad,

"Now that, by the grace of God, the Mahabad area has been cleansed of insurgents and security prevails in the area, all brothers residing in Mahabad must give attention to the following points and act accordingly.

"1. People should return to their jobs and earnestly do their work.

"2. They should provide full and sincere cooperation in advancing the goals of the Islamic Revolution.

"3. The area's needs will be examined and provided for swiftly by the directors of the province.

"4. The government, too, in its turn, will take the necessary steps at once to provide for the area's urgent needs.

"5. Villagers who left their villages and homes should return to their villages which will enjoy security and all assistance necessary.

"6. The government will make every effort to launch as swiftly as possible economic and development programs in order to provide for the comfort of all of the people and units of the area.

"7. The intrigues of anti-revolutionaries should be strictly avoided.

"8. Respected inhabitants and all of the leaders will be asked to report their most urgent needs to the governor's office and other authorities so that steps might be taken at once to provide for these needs."

Message of Dr Chamran

Dr Mostafa Chamran warned in a message issued last night that those who are conspiring against Iran's Islamic Revolution will be brutally crushed.

The text of the message is as follows:

"Dear Kurdish Countrymen,

"For some time now, conspirators, incited by foreign Imperialists, have made your area the site for infiltrating subversive political-military activities. They were killing the innocent; they were scattering families; they were imposing on the area their political ideas by force of arms; they were eliminating their opponents; they disrupted the security of the area; and, generally, they conspired against Iran's Islamic Revolution and for the sake of foreign interests.

"The government tried to bring round peacefully those who had been led astray and to prevent bloodshed; but the seditious took advantage of this good will and freedom, set aflame a portion of our dear country, shamelessly raised the standard of opposition against the central government, and openly embarked on extreme activities against Iran's Islamic Revolution. Finally, the high ranking leader of the Revolution, Imam Khomeini, decreed that the seditious and conspirators were to be brutally crushed, and as you saw, the conspirators were swiftly eradicated and they chose to flee and now nothing remains of all that uproar and foolishness.

"By the will of the great God, blessed by revolutionary leadership, and as a result of the people's desire for Iran's past life, security has returned to your area, and most of the people have returned with great joy to their homes and lodgings.

"A number of simple, deluded people, however, still are fugitives in the mountains and are afraid to return to their homes. By order of Imam Khomeini, however, a general amnesty has been declared and all of those deluded people, provided that they turn over their weapons to the government and are sorry for their pasts, will be forgiven and included under the general amnesty. Those people who have committed serious crimes, however, will be summoned to court; only the court can issue a verdict in their cases and no one has a right to molest the life and property of another.

"Now, the time has come for all fugitives and even those people who have been deluded to return to their homes, confess their mistakes, repent their unworthy actions, and return to the bosom of the nation. The government will guarantee their safety and security, too.

"Those people, however, who, God forbid, conspire against the Islamic Revolution of Iran and its great leader and draw weapons against the security forces, will be brutally crushed. The government and the army will not show them any mercy whatsoever, and they will suffer defeat and disgrace in this world and in the hereafter."

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CSO: 4906

IRAN

TRIAL OF HASSAN NAZIH LABELED 'PUPPET SHOW'

Paris NAMEH-YE RUZ in Persian 28 Sep 79 p 1

[Text] The Imam said to hundreds of oil workers, unaccountably gathered in the sidestreets of Qom, that "God willing, Nazih will be tried." He asked them to replace themselves as oil workers and become instead secret police to collect documents for the trial of the managing director of the oil company and give them to Mr Eshraqi, his son-in-law and the man who has become the Vishinskiy of Iran. Some of these oil workers were taken from Qom to Abadan to pave the way for the trial of Nazih.

Two things emerge from this action of the leader of the religious regime: one is that Khomeyni does not have enough power to unilaterally suspend Nazih and try him for drawing breath and showing courage. The other is that he wants Bazargan to understand, together with other freedom lovers like Engineer Sanjabi, Admiral Madani and Moqadam Maraghei, that this camel could also sleep in their house and that they had better follow the straight road of condoning the actions of the reactionary holy men.

After the fall of Idi Amin in Uganda and Bokassa in southern Africa the leaders of Iran are the only news source that is at the same time laughable and savage. They have brought Iran, which was tending toward Europe, to the heart of the dark continent. Idi Amin threw his own foreign minister into the river. Bokassa killed students in prison. Our leaders who have killed hundreds without trial now promise a puppet show trial.

9448  
CSO: 4906

IRAN

CONSEQUENCES OF NAZIH'S DISMISSAL

Paris NAMEH-YE RUZ in Persian 2 Oct 79 p 1

[Text] The casting aside of Hassan Nazih was the event that awakened patriotic freedom-loving Iranians who a few months ago considered the Islam of Khomeyni as freedom and justice, a movement of the people and progress. They considered the victory of the revolution as starting a society that would be a model in the human community.

Today when the sacrificial blood of the revolution has not dried, blood which all thought would bring Islam, religion, freedom, justice and equality, has brought an Islam that only uses the name republic and is not a popular democratic movement, only a movement that is upheld by reactionary leaders. The sweat of the freedom fighters was to secure lost rights, not to lose even what rights remain. They wanted to produce a model society and of course it has become such, a model in reverse.

Nazih was one of the last persons struggling within the regime. For months he tried to bring to a conclusion his 25-year struggle in the destruction on which the previous regime was built. In this destruction, every place that wanted freedom saw only servitude, every corner that wanted justice witnessed repression, and every side that wanted equality felt the preference of reactionary, job-loving preachers. They suddenly woke up from a nightmare and saw that they were only temporary tools in the hands of the reactionary leaders. Because they did not know, knowledge itself is forbidden. Because they were generous, generosity is annulled.

The Sanjabis, Riahis, Nazihs, and soon the Bazargans, have been used as soporifics for the enlightened, and they were used to strengthen the position of the leaders, based on ignorance, and help them complete the job of building a wall of darkness around Iran.

Nazih was an honored advocate of the court who knew nothing outside the court rooms. His latest struggle makes him look like a hero. Maybe he will be a model for others who love Iran and will fight for the liberation of the land from the jungle of ignorance and hopeless darkness. The patient people of Iran praise the Nazihs and will remember their names and struggles among those many examples from past times.

9448

CSO: 4906



IRAN

OIL STRIKES, SECOND BLOW AGAINST MULLAHS

Paris NAMEH-YE RUZ in Persian 26 Sep 79 p 1

[Text] The differences between Hassan Nazih, advocate of the court and managing director of the National Iranian Oil Company and Ayatollah Khomeyni and members of his family have reached a head. For 2 days he has not shown up at the oil company. This has been the cause of a strike by the workers at the main office of the company. Dr Nazih, who is one of the greatest fighters for liberty in Iran, has for some months put himself at a distance from the extremist spiritual leaders and is the only leading person to bring his troubles with them to light.

The decision of Ayatollah Khomeyni to proceed with purging the oil company is directed at not only the appointees of the previous regime but all "chirping women" who oppose the ancient learning and want skill and literate people. The replacement of Hassan Nazih with Ayatollah Rafsanjani, who has received one of the number one jobs and will soon join the ranks of the holy men with the government's blessing, was the cause of the strike in the country's basic industry. These workers, whose long strike during the last weeks of the shah's regime was a principal reason for his overthrow, deserve the leadership among all classes of workers for their service in fighting union and political struggles. These struggles were important to the cause of freedom lovers because, as it became clear that the new regime, instead of improvement, wanted to move back to ancient ways of thinking, this was the first social group to oppose these actions.

After the continuation of unrest in the university which caused the closing of higher educational societies in Iran, the oil workers strike is the second blow to strike the mullahs' regime. The strike has also spread to the southern oil workers. Therefore, it can be said with certainty that the regime is sliding to its fall because after this strike the regime will have difficulty stopping the flood.

9448

CSO: 4906

IRAN

EMBASSY IN LONDON EXPELS QUESTIONABLE EMPLOYEES

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 30 Oct 79 p 12

/Article: "22 Employees of the Iranian Embassy in England Are Expelled for Political and Moral Reasons"/

/Text/ In a conversation today, the charge d'affaires of the Iranian Embassy in England announced that a trial would be set to investigate the crimes of the Iranians who have been arrested. The charge d'affaires of the Iranian embassy also expressed the view that most people who had assembled under the umbrella of Bakhtiar's protection are corrupt people, Bahais, Zionists and people who had been harmed by the Islamic Republic.

In his conversation regarding today's trial of Iranians in London, the charge d'affaires of the Iranian embassy in England stated "A trial is being held today to investigate the crimes of Iranians arrested in the London demonstrations. This trial was held on the recommendation of the arrested persons, who are proponents of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and one must investigate their objection to the London police."

Dr Afruz, the embassy charge, then stated, with regard to the 22 people expelled from the Iranian embassy, "Twenty-two embassy employees have been expelled for reasons of redundancy or for political or moral causes. Some of them, who had been receiving low salaries, misused embassy telephones or engaged in other activities to augment their income; in any event, they have been released." The Iranian charge d'affaires added that the group of expelled persons have also joined groups opposed to the Islamic Republic.

Concerning the studies of Iranian students in England, the charge d'affaires of the Iranian embassy said,

"About 70 percent of the people who come to England to study for the bachelor's degree cannot study in the fields they are interested in and have no choice but to engage in studies in peripheral fields."

Referring to the problems which are arising for Iranians at London Airport, he said:

"The right to issue or refrain from issuing permits to foreign subjects to enter the territory of England is the absolute business of the government and we cannot interfere in these matters, especially since the number of Iranians who come to London is very large. In summer the number of Iranian visitors even reaches 1,000 people per day; now, however, this figure is about 700 persons per day. Nonetheless, we have constantly tried to manage to provide facilities for Iranians who want to come to London. Among these visitors there are sometimes people who have official business and it is for this reason that we ourselves have proposed that the embassy be informed of these people's arrival in advance so that no difficulties will be created for them at the airport. In addition, it is my recommendation concerning the travel of Iranians to England that visa abrogation procedures be eliminated and that those who want to travel to England be compelled to obtain a visa from the British Embassy in Tehran, in which event no difficulties will arise at the airport concerning their entry into England. A group of travelers come to England for medical purposes and are sick; the major portion of this group can also be treated in the country and we recommend that a medical commission be formed and express an opinion on the need of sick persons to be treated outside the country before they leave."

Regarding the closing of the London mosque, Dr Afruz stated "On the occasion of the seventh night following the death of His Eminence Ayatollah Taleqani, ceremonies were held at that mosque and were attended by many people. In these ceremonies, a large number of Iranians living abroad, greater than the capacity of the location, took part and this created an excuse for those opposed to say that the doors of the mosque did not conform to safety regulations; for this reason, the police requested that the mosque be repaired and that the outer doors be rebuilt in accordance with safety regulations. This mosque is now closed down and repairs on it are being carried out quickly."

Regarding Bakhtiar's supporters in Europe, Dr Afruz said "These groups are perforce not supporters of Bakhtiar but opponents of the Islamic Republic of Iran who have gathered together under Bakhtiar's umbrella. Most of them are corrupt people who have escaped, Bahais, Zionists, people who have been harmed by the Islamic revolution of Iran, and close friends of the family of the deposed Shah."

The charge d'affaires of the Iranian embassy did not categorically confirm that opponents of the Islamic Republic and some groups belonging to the International Confederation of Students sympathizing with the People's Guerrilla Forces participated in the demonstrations by Bakhtiar's supporters.

However, he did say "It is probable that they also took part in these demonstrations, but no absolute proof is available in this regard."

11887  
CSO: 4906

IRAN

MILITARY LEADER DEPLORES GROWING PUBLIC ESTRANGEMENT

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 25 Oct 79 p 2

/Article: "Adm Madani: The Curve of Popular Participation in Affairs Is Declining"/

/Text/ Adm Ahmad Madani, the governor general of Khuzestan and commander of the navy of the Islamic Republic of Iran, made important statements to KEYHAN in a special interview concerning the presence of several American ships in the Indian Ocean and the Saudi Arabian coast, the role of the navy in the Bandar Anzali episodes, the detonation of three oil pipelines and the general acts of sabotage taking place in Khuzestan, and the reasons for the failure of the town council elections. In this interview, referring to people's participation in the town council elections, the governor general of Khuzestan warned that the curve of popular participation in activities is declining.

At the outset of his statement Adm Madani said,

"As I have pointed out in the past, the presence of several American ships in the Indian Ocean and the Saudi Arabian coast is the sort of threat which imperialism has used in the Persian Gulf for a long time. Whenever it wanted to make a display of strength it would dispatch its ships to this region and thus create threats and terror." Madani added,

"A change has occurred among imperialists. They are present and they have bases. Of course at the same time these superpowers have intense competition with one another which is of course far from a friendly international relationship, and they interfere in countries which have no relationship with them. It would be better if Persian Gulf protection were assigned to people who have this responsibility, that is, to those who border on the Persian Gulf." Madani added, "If they do not wish to observe this international etiquette, it will be painful but will not directly cause a disturbance among us."

In response to a question from KEYHAN's correspondent concerning the role of the navy in the recent events in Bandar Anzali, Madani said, "It did

not act as if it was an oppressive force which acts harshly as soon as there is a discussion. Rather, I have always said that we will not open a knot which we can open by hand with our teeth. In areas which are connected with the navy, sometimes severe crises occur which place the area in danger. Our effort is to take steps through arrangements which have been very carefully thought out and are for the people's sake, and not, God forbid, allow a severe act to occur which is out of place. It is natural that we should not be viewing disorder in the country; rather, order should govern in every part of the country." Regarding the latest acts of sabotage in Khuzestan, Madani said "Of course if we think that we can protect absolutely 100 percent of all our pipelines, oil installations and economic installations, the mobilization of such a force is not in our power nor indeed is it in the power of other countries which have such installations either, because it is not just us who have such facilities--our neighbors also are in the same situation. However, there are patrolmen. Sometimes criminals take advantage of this opportunity and find an opportunity to commit sabotage, and sometimes, too, we identify and arrest them and punish them so they will not engage in this activity any more."

Adm Madani then added, "Of course the effort is being made for us to be able to mobilize our forces so that these acts of sabotage can be reduced. Naturally, if an act of sabotage does take place in some corner on occasion we must not lose our heads, because whether we like it or not a country which is fighting against imperialism must be able to tolerate such problems." Regarding the town council elections, he said:

"In this matter, we must look at the curve of popular participation in group activities. Since the beginning of the triumph of the revolution, I have unfortunately been noticing that the people's receptivity to such matters is declining and that the curve is dropping. An indifference is to be observed today in the course of group activities and matters which constitute public duties. Part of this of course lies within ourselves--that is, is the doing of agents--and one must see from the overall perspective what expectations we have had of ourselves and one another and to what point these have been met. If we see that expectations have not been met somewhere, we should try to meet the expectations which the society has with an about face and carry them out. If this condition is realized the society's receptivity to group activity will increase; if it does not, this curve will head down."

11337  
CSO: 4906

IRAN

COMMERCE MINISTER EXPOSES SAVAK GRAFT IN MINISTRY

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 27 Oct 79 p 3

/Article: "Minister of Commerce Has Revealed Techniques of Graft and Savak Agent Conspiracy in Commerce Ministry"/

/Text/ Reza Sadr, the minister of commerce, lifted the veil over a great case of graft and domestic conspiracy on the part of Savak agents in the Grain, Hard and Granulated Sugar and Tea Organization and the relationship between this conspiracy and foreign countries, at a press, radio and television conference.

At the start Reza Sadr said, "When I began my job in the Ministry of Commerce, one of the most important matters I faced was that of appointing and changing managing directors of organizations related to the ministry. In this regard, we had big headaches in two organizations: first was the Grain, Hard and Granulated Sugar and Tea Organization and the other was the Government Trade Organization. Fortunately, we have not yet faced any problems in the latter company, but in the Grain, Hard and Granulated Sugar and Tea Organization, 6 months after his appointment, we learned that Abdolhoseyn Nikkhalq was an agent of the disbanded Savak and engaged in a series of illegal measures, with the help of his friends, who were also Savak agents, according to existing documents and evidence; one of these measures was the two-stage embezzlement of 70 million rials." The minister of commerce, describing this matter, said, "Sometime after he was chosen to be managing director of the Grain, Hard and Granulated Sugar and Tea Organization, Nikkhalq asked me directly to transfer one Ministry of Commerce telephone line to his home. The administrative and financial undersecretary opposed this, labelling it meaningless action which was against the law. Finally, as later became known, without my knowledge or that of the administrative and financial undersecretary, he transferred one Grain Organization telephone line to his home and thereupon insisted that his brother be chosen to be a member of the board of directors of the Government Trade Organization. At the same time the Finagrains Company claimed losses of \$6 million; when we requested a reduction, Nikkhalq undertook the performance of that job and after a while declared, 'I have

managed to bring about a reduction of one-third. Of course the amount of the reduction should have been much greater and 2 days later he drew out a check for \$4 million."

The minister of commerce added that Nikkhalq carried out all these activities with the collusion of a person named Behnam Nojumi, who presented himself as a commercial agent but was not--rather, according to documents and evidence which have been acquired he was an agent in the dissolved Savak. Behnam Nojumi, who cooperated with Nikkhalq and Hashemi Quchani, foreign trade chief of the Grain Organization, closely and sincerely, presented himself as the agent of the Interseis Company and obtained the sum of 60 million rials through four Iranshahr Bank checks without paying a penny to this company. In addition, he obtained 10 million rials from the Grain Organization with the cooperation of Nikkhalq and Hashemi Quchani. The Interseis Company representative in Tehran, named Captain Mahmudi, has totally denied that Behnam Nojumi was an agent and has declared that he has no knowledge whatever of such a person. Nikkhalq, for whose arrest a warrant has now been issued by the Office of the Revolutionary Public Prosecutor, was chosen to be an advisor to the minister of agriculture and rural development some time ago. Hashemi Quchani has been arrested and taken to Evin Prison but Nikkhalq and Behnam Nojumi have escaped and are fugitives.

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CSO: 4906

IRAN

GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN DESCRIBES VISIT TO WEST GERMANY

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 29 Oct 79 p 11

/Article: "Dr Tabataba'i, Deputy Prime Minister, in a Visit with German Authorities: 'We Have Made No Commitment To Supply Fuel to the West'"

/Excerpt<sup>7</sup> Dr Sadeq Tabataba'i, deputy prime minister for political affairs and government spokesman, travelled to Germany 13 days ago in order to investigate the contracts the deposed shah had made with that country and hold conversations and exchanges with German authorities. He returned to Iran yesterday at dawn.

In a special interview with KEYHAN at Mehrabad airport, Sadeq Tabataba'i described the results of his conversations with the chancellor of West Germany and other officials of that country.

Sadeq Tabataba'i said "In the discussions I held with German authorities, the actual situation in Iran following the revolution was first described from the political and economic standpoints; in the meeting held with the German chancellor, I described Iran's foreign policy principles concerning various matters including issues of neighboring countries, conditions in the Middle East, Iran's categorical stand vis-a-vis Israel, and Iran's foreign policy regarding the African countries and the European Common Market."

The deputy prime minister for political affairs and government spokesman then added "The West German chancellor then asked about conditions in Kordestan and whether the Kordestan problem could be solved by political means. In response I told him that the issue of Kordestan was complex, that is, that the forces fighting in Kordestan against the Kurdish people--who are our compatriots--and against the government of the Islamic Republic are forces composed of various elements, including personnel of the former Shah connected to the Imperial Guards, which were dissolved following the revolution. A group of people devoted to the Shah who are in England and France compose part of these forces, and there are personnel from the dissolved Savak, personnel connected with the government of Iraq, Israeli spies, and also some Kurdish elements. It is natural that we are



conducting no kind of political discussions with the deposed Shah's men. Faced with their hostile operations--hostile operations which mostly have a military character and wholly in order to disrupt the security and calm in the region and consequently prevent construction and development operations--the means of confrontation are military; it is possible to solve the problem with a number of Kurdish elements who want independence and a kind of autonomy through political negotiations."

#### Essential Ground for Relations with Foreign Countries

Sadeq Tabatab'i then added "The road which must be chosen in Kordestan to avoid this crisis, which is foreign in its origin, is one of military and even political operations. Regarding the Council of Experts, the explanations I gave the German chancellor and in particular the point which was interesting to them were that under conditions in which the Iranian revolution and the Islamic Republic of Iran have about 98 percent of the nation's vote behind them, this democracy, after a revolution which had no precedent anywhere in the world, has nonetheless made it mandatory that Jewish, Christian and Zoroastrian experts also be invited to draw up the constitution and take part in the Council of Experts, in spite of this almost unanimous majority, in order that they may be participants in Iran's future constitution. This point was the object of everyone's attention."

Continuing the discussion with KEYHAN, Sadeq Tabatab'i pointed out, "Detailed discussion was held with the German chancellor and his minister without portfolio regarding economic relations between the two countries. In this, I stated "If the essential ground for our relations with foreign countries is accepted by you, then discussions regarding contracts and other economic and commercial relations will be much easier. Therefore, if agreement is reached over the fact that Iran wants independence in all areas, Iran's commercial relations, before we say what we want and what we do not want, must be based on Iran's economic policy, and Iran's economic policy must be devoted to meeting the general needs of the Iranian nation. The general needs of the Iranian nation are to meet material and spiritual needs and provide the resources for growth for all and as a result benefit the cultural growth of Iran, so that it can enjoy a condition of effectiveness and creativity in all fields and secure the groundwork for its own independence by making use of technology and science. Moreover, the things we want and the things we do not want--that is, the limits of our economic activities--must be based on the fact that Iran will preserve its territorial integrity, national sovereignty and independence and that resources will be provided for all. If these outlines are accepted we will then determine what we want and what we do not want and then how much of what we want is inside the country and how much of it we must import from abroad. Therefore our commercial relations are based on our economic needs.

"Concerning technology and progress, it is natural that we are not only interested in using the advanced technology of the West--we also need it.

It is clear to everyone that West German's technology and industry are among the most advanced technologies and industries.

"Therefore, we are in need of West Germany in this field, but this need on the one hand is in order to make our independence prevail and preserve our independence while at the same time meeting our requirements for progress.' This principle was accepted and well received by the German chancellor and his minister without portfolio."

#### We Will Set the Price of Oil Ourselves

He added, "It is true that we have reduced our oil production to about half the pre-revolution level. This may not be pleasing to the West but on the other hand we have made no commitment to being responsible for providing the energy the world requires. We are taking into account the volume of domestic consumption and the volume of requirements at the time and on this basis are seeing how much oil we must produce for our own domestic system and how much oil we must sell in order to organize and meet the country's budget. We will also set the price of oil ourselves and not allow anyone to dictate to us how much oil to produce, whom to sell it to and what price to sell it at.

"We hope to substitute another source of energy for oil in the domestic field in the near future." Sadeq Tabataba'i, who described the details of his talks with the West German chancellor exclusively for KEYHAN, said "Regarding substitution of another source for oil, the West German chancellor asked 'what, for example,' and I said, 'for example, the natural gas resource. We can use natural gas as an energy source for another 300 years. By constructing solar collectors, we can use solar energy in the Kavir Desert and by using solar collectors in the Kavir-e Lut provide all the warm water throughout Iran. For of course a very cheap price, since each square meter of solar collectors costs \$15--one-tenth the costs at which they had intended to construct the nuclear power plants at Bushehr--one could fill the entire Kavir-e Lut with solar collectors and thereby provide the necessary warm water and heat for Iran. It is exactly for this reason that we need the atomic agreement which was made between the former regime and the German company; we have no need for this agreement, which, with all its features and the accessories it needed--the fuel, the refined or enriched uranium materials-- was to cost a sum equal to 15 billion marks, that is, something close to 75 billion toman, would have devoured our budget and moreover was extremely dangerous from the standpoint of security and safety. We hope that you can realize that we do not need this and that for this reason we will not go through with this contract. We believe that the German company committed violations in implementing its contracts and did not conduct its operations in the proper manner; for this reason the claim it is making for compensation is unfounded and if we cannot resolve it by negotiation we will take it to court. But of course going to court is not in Germany's interest and it will also entail damage for us in terms of money and time. Therefore it

would be better for you, as the head of the government, to intervene in the matter and, although the company on our side is not a government company, for you to try to get our dispute with the KWO Company resolved." Sadeq Tabataba'i said, "The chancellor's minister without portfolio is to read the file we have on this matter and to have us complete what he needs and send it to him and so that we can resolve our problem with the German firm KWO through the intervention of the German government."

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CSO: 4906

IRAN

AHMADZADEH EXPLAINS CONDITIONS FOR OWNERSHIP

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 19 Sep 79 p 5

[Text] In the fourth Council for the Study of National Economic Questions, which was to study the industrial situation, Mahmud-Ahmadzadeh, the Minister of Industries and Mines, said that "the problems facing our industries are beyond imagining. I must explain about the legal conditions for ownership which have been approved by the Revolutionary Council. They are:

"1. Things cannot be owned which are forbidden by Islam.

"2. Only those things may be owned which are intrinsically capable of being privately owned, i.e., not things like the sea.

"3. Ownership must be acquired through legal means.

"Other considerations include:

"1. Wealth must be equally distributed among the people.

"2. Hoarding is not allowed.

"3. Ownership must not be harmful to the public, e.g., opium.

"4. Goods which are urgently needed by the people must be turned over to them."

In another part of his speech, Ahmadzadeh spoke of the problems facing industry:

"1. Most factories are experiencing financial problems.

"2. The banks are not cooperating in providing sufficient credits.

"3. There are difficulties in obtaining needed inputs.

"4. Managerial problems are compounded by the intrigues of former owners and managers.

"5. Existing markets are inadequate.

"6. Labor unrest is causing problems."

Elsewhere in his speech, Ahmadzadeh proposed the creation of a center for industrial planning, studies and statistics, as well as centers for research and expanding rural industries in various parts of Iran.

Vocational training centers are also needed in order to strengthen the country's labor force.

Ahmadzadeh added that the activities of large and medium industries have been evaluated and suitable means found to transfer the nonbasic ones from the government sector to the private and mixed sectors. The pillars of industrial expansion have been determined and steps taken to lay the foundations in these areas.

The documents establishing industrial workers councils have been drafted. Industries are also being encouraged to enter and compete in international markets. Building materials and equipment industries have been established to provide supporting services. Insofar as possible, this equipment is being built in factories which now exist in Iran. Industries are being mobilized to build needed agricultural machinery, tools and equipment. Studies and systematic investigations into all basic industrial activities have also been undertaken.

Factories are being established to fill the gaps, and will form a complete network of productive units throughout the country.

Intermediate industries whose products are exported in semifinished form for use in other countries should be encouraged and industries which are linked to agriculture should enjoy special priority. Basic and strategic industries should be expanded. A market strategy answering the needs of industry has been drawn up.

Ahmadzadeh also said that more industrial planning and research units, more on-the-job training programs and, finally, more international competition are needed.

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CSO: 4906

IRAN

ELECTIONS FOR LOCAL COUNCILS ANNOUNCED

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 19 Sep 79 p 12

[Text] Interior Minister Hashem Sabaghian announced yesterday morning in a press conference that a bill establishing local councils had been drawn up and submitted to the Committee of State and the Revolutionary Council.

The interior minister said that action on the bill had been delayed after it had been approved by the Revolutionary Council and sent to the Ministry of the Interior, because the latter was preoccupied with preparations for the elections to the Council of Experts. Also, after numerous studies by a committee headed by Deputy Minister Haj Hamzeh, the bill sent by the Revolutionary Council still was not ready for enactment. For example, the bill states that the election of municipal councils comes first, even though the formation of municipal councils must be preceded by the formation of village and district councils. The Revolutionary Council's response to the committee's comments, which were sent in a 12-page memorandum, has not yet been received.

The interior minister said that he hoped the elections to the municipal councils could begin in the first half of October.

This phase will be dedicated to the memory of Ayatollah Taleqqani, who died recently.

Asked whether the elections would be free, Sabaghian said that the candidates should come from different social strata. He added that this recommendation certainly has not been observed, even in the village councils. The minister said that a similar bill for councils in the factories, offices and other establishments is in preparation.

In explaining the government's financial policy in Kurdeistan, the minister said that, on the Emam's order, one day's oil revenues had been earmarked for use in Kordestan. A special office in the Ministry of the Interior has been established to handle this matter, in collaboration with the Emam's financial office in Sanadaj. The latter is composed of a representative of

the Imam and two representatives of the Ministry of the Interior. Also, the municipal government of Sanandaj is functioning with the help of cadres provided by the Tehran city government. The minister said that to date 1,000 tons of rice, oil, flour, sugar and detergent have been sent to the region and, according to the local authorities, there is no food shortage at present.

The necessary steps are being taken to improve the water situation at Saghez, Bijar and Marivan. Also, two 2,000-liter tanker trucks are distributing free drinking water to households. Another thing which is being done is a road survey in preparation for expanding the local road network. With regard to the shortage of seed and fertilizer, Sabaghian said that the necessary amounts will be sent to the region. In the health field, medical teams are being sent in, and construction work on the 250-bed Mahabad Hospital will be resumed in the near future.

After Sabaghian had finished his remarks, his deputy, Haj Hamzeh spoke about the problems and contradictions in the version of the election law approved by the Revolutionary Council. He said, "As the minister of the interior has said, after we received the law establishing the councils, a group of the most intelligent and experienced individuals in this ministry started studying it. Through long and detailed study, the problems and contradictions in the bill were discovered and pointed out to the Revolutionary Council in a detailed report. One such problem which was discovered was the bill's lack of attention to geographical divisions. For example, there are municipalities like Ahvaz, which have only one subdivision, while there are numerous other municipalities which include many villages and hamlets within their boundaries. For example, the municipality of Rudsar, in Gilan Province, contains nearly 1,000 villages. If we were to deal with this municipality according to the provisions of the approved version of the bill, we would be ignoring the rights of those villages, by giving them minority representation.

"According to the formula in the bill, all the districts together have one representative and the major town has three representatives. Such problems have led to delays in implementing the new law. After we became aware of these defects, we set up an experienced group to draw up new standards and guidelines to be used in such matters. We have worked hard on our own to prepare the law on municipal councils, and similar laws for other types of councils are also now under preparation."

#### Citizen Participation Called Essential

Haj Hamzeh continued, saying: "Recognizing the importance of the people and taking into account their thoughts and beliefs are among the most basic principles of Islam; even the Koran stresses the importance of consulting the people on a variety of subjects. The best way to realize this aim is to form a council in which the people participate in dealing with various social matters. We are particularly aware of this, and therefore we are trying to finish plans for the councils as soon as possible. However, if there have been delays, it is for the reasons discussed above."

8921  
CSO: 4906

IRAN

SALE, PURCHASE OF BIG PLOTS OF IDLE LAND TO BE BANNED

Tehran BAMDAD in Persian 1 Sep 79 p 10

[Text] The buying and selling of big plots of idle land is to be banned. Mostafa Katirani, the Minister of Housing and Urban Development, told a PARS reporter that tracts of land over 1,000 square meters in Tehran and 1,500 square meters in other areas are affected by the measure.

The minister also said that a special organization will be set up in association with the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development to work closely with the municipal governments in implementing the new law. Its responsibilities will include defining criteria to be used in determining whether or not a piece of land is idle, taking possession of and surveying idle land, and taking the necessary steps to prepare the land for transfer to applicants.

The minister added that according to the law, within 3 months both large and small property owners who claim that their land is in use must report to the authorities concerned. The second group, as soon as they show that they are able to meet the necessary conditions, such as that they own no more than one piece of land, and do not have a house, will receive a permit from the authorities.

According to the law, those who receive land under the law's provisions may only sell it once. Owners of tracts which exceed the size limit do not have the right to sell these lands, which belong to the government, unless they can prove that they are in use according to the officially established definition.

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CSO: 4906



IRAN

BRIEFS

COMMERCE MINISTRY PLOTS--The Office of the Prime Minister has declared in an announcement that a network of corruption and conspiracy against the Islamic revolution and the government of the Islamic Republic of Iran has been discovered after several months of investigation and inquiry. The text of the announcement is as follows: "In the name of God, the all-merciful, all-compassionate: After several months of investigation and inquiry, one of the networks of corruption and conspiracy against the advancement of the Islamic revolution and the government of the Iranian republic has been unearthed by the government. According to official documents, this network was engaged in activities by means of agents and personnel of the disbanded Savak and individuals connected with Western imperialism and counterrevolutionary groups in the Ministry of Commerce. The objective of this network was to acquire control of matters related to the purchase, transportation, unloading and distribution of public goods and commodities from foreign countries and to strike out at the revolutionary society of Iran during sensitive moments. The technique of this group was the disruption of activities in progress, the paralysis of Ministry of Commerce officials, positive attempts to spread rumors and poison the minds of employees, introduction of false accusations against honest revolutionary elements and, in parallel with that, exaggerated manifestations of Islam, revolution, fervent concern for the treasury and recourse to religious and nationalist personalities. They even carried impudence and shamelessness to the point where in order to give themselves an aura of legitimacy they requested admission before the presence of the leader of the revolution and a meeting with the prime minister. Because the government is of the people, is responsible before the people and considers it necessary that the people be informed of the particulars of this plot, the prime minister has ordered that the Ministry of Commerce convey the details of the affair to our beloved compatriots through a radio and television interview and press conference." /Text/ /Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 27 Oct 29 p 3/ 11887

CSO: 4906

ISRAEL

HASSIDIC 'GANG WAR' ESCALATES IN JERUSALEM

Jerusalem JERUSALEM POST in English 29 Oct 79 p 1

[Article by Abraham Rabinovich]

[Text] The gangland-style warfare between hassidic groups in Jerusalem's ultra-orthodox quarters entered a new phase of violence over the weekend when kaftan-garbed attackers savagely beat a rabbi in the Kerem Avraham quarter after breaking in the door to his house about midnight Saturday.

The rabbi, Aharon Moshe Schwarz, was reported to have required 40 stitches in his head and to have lost three teeth. Part of his beard and one of his sidelocks were reportedly ripped off by the assailants, who wielded crow-bars and sticks. Rabbi Schwarz, an administrator at the Satmar Yeshiva, is affiliated with the anti-Zionist Eda Haredit and was instrumental in its campaign against yeshivot accepting educational funds from the government.

Mea She'arim sources last night claimed that the raiders were Belzer hassidim disguised in striped kaftans such as those worn by Reb Arele's hassidim, who are stalwarts of the Eda Haredit camp. The attackers somehow eluded Eda guards posted in front of the rabbi's house on Rehov Ezra. They reportedly manhandled his wife when she reached for the phone to call police.

Rabbi Schwarz was taken to Shaare Zedek hospital and released after treatment.

The incident follows a beating last week of another rabbi affiliated with the Eda Haredit and a programme of harassment against the Eda leader, Rabbi Yitzhak Ya'acov Weiss.

"This is the first time there's ever been violence like this in the orthodox community," an Eda supporter said last night. "Everyone here is shocked."

It was reported yesterday that the Belzer rebbe has left the country for Switzerland. He himself had been the target of an ambush set by Eda

supporters last week in retaliation for the first beating, but the rabbi failed to show up at the house of mourning where he was expected.

Eda supporters accused the Belzer hassidim of initiating the violence as a reply to the campaign against ultra-orthodox schools accepting funds from the government.

"This has become a problem now, because Agudat Yisrael has managed to get so much for this purpose from Premier Begin that many yeshivas find their offers difficult to resist."

The Belz group is affiliated with Agudat Yisrael and accepts government funds.

Mea She'arim sources asserted emphatically that an action of the scope of Saturday night's attack could not be carried out except by direct order from the hassidic hierarchy to which the attackers are affiliated.

The belzer rebbe has some 5,000 followers. Some of them, who have friends in the Eda camp, warned them late last week that some action was imminent.

Rabbi Schwarz is a Vizhnitzer hassid, some of his followers lean towards the Eda, as he does, and some are pro-Aguda.

The polarization in the ultra-orthodox community appears to be growing, with no rabbi having sufficient moral authority and sufficient neutral colouring to effect a compromise. It is unclear how this inter-communal dispute will affect ultra-orthodox militancy on the Ramot Road and other issues.

It was reported last night from the Eda camp that countermeasures are being planned against elements in the Belz camp allegedly involved in the recent violence.

CSG: 4820

ISRAEL

HEART DISEASE RATE INCREASING

Jerusalem JERUSALEM POST in English 25 Oct 79 p 2

[Text] Tel Aviv--The incidence of deaths among the Jewish population in Israel from heart disease is growing faster than any other cause, according to data from the Central Bureau of Statistics.

The death rate per 100,000 from heart disease was 102.2 in the 1950-1954 period, but it more than doubled to 210.7 in the 1975-1977 period. During the same comparative period, the death rate per 100,000 from all types of cancer grew from 86 to 138.8.

The third ranking killer was cerebrovascular disease (strokes), which rose from 63.5 per 100,000 in the 1950-1954 period to 96.7 in the 1975-1977 period.

Although deaths from these diseases are increasing among the non-Jewish population, they still remain much lower than among the Jewish population.

In 1977 the death rate for heart disease among the non-Jewish population was 89.6 per 100,000, 46.1 for cancers, and 42.9 for strokes.

However, the non-Jewish population had much higher death rates per 100,000 in several other fields, such as dysentery--six times as high as among Jews; congenital birth defects--almost three times as high; and deaths from a variety of causes soon after birth--almost three times as high.

Deaths among men from heart disease is much higher than for women in the early years, but the women gradually catch up and then even pass the men--in the 85-year-old and over bracket.

CSO: 4820

ISRAEL

JOINT WATER PROJECT WITH EGYPT RAISED AS POSSIBILITY

Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 21 Sep 79 p 25

[Article by Micha'el Gerti: "Project 'Yeor' or the Nile in Blue and White"]

[Text] The idea is not new. The dates printed on many documents--under the classification "classified," and small-print letters titling the project "Ye'or"--evidence the optimistic approach of those who deal with water in Israel. The files concerned with examining the economic value, the engineering details, and the political implications of transporting water from the Nile to the Negev were opened years before the Egyptian president's visit to Israel. The files, which gathered dust between entries, since that visit have become much requested reading material and have become well-known in the 2 weeks since President Anwar al-Sadat's declaration in his meeting with Israeli reporters in Haifa--a declaration which was broadcast in the newspaper headlines: "From the Nile to the Sinai--and Perhaps to the Negev," and "Sadat Is Willing To Supply Water to the Negev."

The idea of bringing water from the Nile to the Negev, like the ideas which resulted in the execution of other gigantic engineering feats (and it will immediately be said, with different levels of success or failure), is not connected with a brilliant spark of genius or prophetic vision. Every year about 55 billion cubic meters of water pass through the Nile, while Israel's entire water supply provides a bit more than 1.25 billion cubic meters. The conditions of the area between the Nile--and, in fact, between the sweet water canal, which has carried the waters of the Nile for the past 100 years, located West of the Suez Canal (which enables the existence of the "agricultural arrow" remembered from the days of the Yom Kipper War)--are favorable and there are no natural barriers or difficult topographical conditions to overcome. If we were to connect the plentiful water from this with the deficiency of that and compare this with the simplicity of planning and execution, the idea of transporting water from the Nile to irrigate the fields of the Negev appears to be a unique answer to the problem.

Just as the advantages of bringing water from the Nile to the Negev appear simple and clear, also the principal danger inherent in the program is

obvious after a first glance at the mission--the utilization of large quantities of water whose source is in a neighboring country and investments in regional development programs based on a water source dependent upon the good will of an outside agent--which carries with it dangerous dependency. The problem of dependency is principally a political problem. In every future contact with Egypt, after the completion of the project the Israeli representatives would be unable to forget the location of the water faucet which feeds the Negev settlements. "All Sadat would have to do to remind us of this when he comes to demand concessions from Israel is to hang a picture of the faucet in the negotiating room," says a water planner. "He would not even have to mention the faucet and certainly would not have to make any threats. He will know that the subject is deep in the Israeli subconscious and overshadows their considerations."

#### Alternatives to the Project

Apart from the seductive aspect of receiving water to fertilize the desert, even though there is the fear of creating dependency, it appears that an examination of the project from other aspects is like examining a mushroom under a microscope which reveals the spores, while in fact its surface is smooth. The issue of carrying the waters of the Nile to the Negev has three principal interconnecting layers. Above all the other considerations is the political aspect, of which the problem of dependency is not the only one. On the second level, far below the political level are the economic, financial and social problems which would affect the work. On the bottom level are the engineering aspects which, despite their simplicity, go beyond the economic and even the political levels.

Many planning alternatives to "Project Ye'or" exist, some of which deal solely with the Israeli-Egyptian possibility--with relation to the problem of water for the Arab population in Judea and Samaria and Gaza--and some are connected to the possibility of transporting additional water and electricity between Israel and Lebanon (the Litani) and Jordan (the Yarmuk). However, the combination of the Jordan and the Yarmuk is not a necessary condition for carrying out the project; and apparently it does not greatly change the understanding of the principal inherent problem--planning, political and economic.

The former assistant water commissioner, Mr Sha'ul Arlozorov, emphasized three alternatives to transporting the Nile waters only, all of which are based on the same engineering system. According to this plan, three wells would be dug under the Suez canal; their source would be the sweet water canal. These canals would send water to central sites in the Sinai not far from Balouza. At these stations the water would rise to a height of several tens of meters (with much less energy invested than in the primary drawing station of the national water carrier at the Sea of Galilee, which raises water to 400 meters). The water would move by the force of gravity along the Sinai shore in an open canal; the digging of this canal, as stated

previously, does not depend on overcoming topographical difficulties. From that canal, secondary canals would extend to the watering networks that will feed the settlements in which the Egyptians plan to settle more than 1 million people. At the corner, the canal would cross the border and bring water to the existing water network in the northwestern Negev.

The engineering planning is related to the political problem in several aspects, the first of which is planning the division of the water that will come from the Nile, and whether to incorporate it into the national network or to create two networks. If it were included in the national network, it could be combined with the supply of water from Israel to Judaea and Samaria, which show signs of a future water shortage, and to the Gaza strip where the water shortage is already an acute problem. The drawing of too much water from the wells in the strip has already caused seepage of sea water in wells in the populated areas.

Transporting water to Arabs in the territories in exchange for a portion of the Nile's water would create a double dependency--Israel would be dependent upon Egypt, but Egypt in turn would know that the citizens of Gaza and Judaea and Samaria were also dependent upon Israel and their economic well being, which to a great extent is dependent upon the availability of future water sources, would therefore be more dependent upon Egypt's policy than Israel's.

A central political problem dependent upon economic planning is that of quantity. Theoretically, it is possible to transfer large quantities of water to the Negev, and one plan refers to moving 2 billion cubic meters of water from the Nile, of which 1.5 cubic meters would water the Sinai and 500 million cubic meters would water the broad settlement areas in the Negev. The political danger arises from the dependence on such a large water supply (this amount would be enough for hundreds of settlements), and it is reasonable to assume that about 100 million cubic meters would be most reasonable. Also, it is estimated that an additional 50 million cubic meters of water would be enough to fill the country's water needs for a long time.

The outline of the program drawn up by Sha'ul Arlozorov also includes a reverse flow--of electricity and not water. In his proposal, Arlozorov calls for paying for the waters of the Nile by supplying electricity to the 'El 'Arish area. Aside from the economic benefit of eliminating the need to supply electricity from the Nile valley, which involves great losses along the route, it would also have a moderating effect by lessening the dependency which would again become mutual. Another engineering possibility which would moderate the dependency is to create a reservoir (or reservoirs) in the region of the green line in which large quantities of water could be stored. These reservoirs, however, would not cancel the dependence on an external water source, but would change it to a dependence which would have an effect only after some time.

Despite the simplicity of the needed reservoirs and the low cost--because the Nile's waters carry a large quantity of fine silt which would quickly seal the bottom of the reservoir--the building of these reservoirs would increase the cost of the water that they would hold, both because of the additional cost in building them and because of the large loss of water due to evaporation. A more simple way would be to force the water to reservoirs underground and preserve a higher level of the Sea of Galilee, and it is not necessary to use the Nile waters for this. It is possible to force the same amount of water which would be saved and to create one time reserves underground that would have the same influence as the above-ground reservoirs from the aspect of moderating the dependence.

#### The Problem of Finance

The increase in the price for a cubic meter of water due to building the reservoir is about 4 cents. (All prices are figured in cents because the portion of the estimates made in Israeli pounds lost significance within a few months due to the high rate of inflation.) The price of the Nile's water next to the Israeli-Egyptian border apparently would be competitive with the cost of the water in the national water carrier. In various surveys, the prices were set at between 13 and 18 cents per cubic meter (in fact, the ability of the Nile water to compete in the Negev will increase in proportion to the increases in the cost of oil on the world market, since a large portion of the price of the Galilee waters carried south is the cost of the electricity to draw it and carry it up the mountain--about 2 kw hours per cubic meter--while the cost for energy is a much smaller portion of the cost for the waters of the Nile for the Negev).

A price of 15 cents for water, similar to the real price of water supplied the south in the national water network, from the point of economic feasibility inhibits the possibility of raising wheat over wide areas. Cotton cultivation is also not worthwhile with complete irrigation (without mentioning the competitive Egyptian cotton which will grow as the irrigation networks are developed by our neighbors to the south). But this price makes the feasibility of producing export items, such as flowers and vegetables most certain. However, a massive increase in the areas devoted to raising export products would create a difficult social problem, which anyone interested in the execution of the project should discuss in the early planning stages.

This export production demands many working hands, and if we do not want to create a region of large estates in which Arab children from the Gaza strip are employed (and this is not the fruit of the writer's imagination) it is necessary to act with care when planning the set up in the south.

On the economic level, there is also the problem of financing the project, which apparently will cost millions of dollars (here we must differentiate between the high cost due to the length of the required carrier and the simplicity of engineering, despite the fact that the engineering of the



national carrier is much more complex than "Project Ye'or," it is not reflected in the building cost). The problem of financing is apparently what caused President Sadat to suggest Israeli cooperation. On the side of the political, economic, and engineering aspects of transporting the Nile waters to the Negev, it is worth considering the possible reasons why the Egyptian president made his suggestion at the Haifa press conference. It is worthwhile to do this before fast-moving Israeli companies (including government companies) suggest their services for digging the canal and changing the Nile to a "blue and white" Nile. Aside from creating Israeli dependence on an Egyptian water source, which possibly was a consideration of the planners in Cairo President Sadat knows the expected difference in Washington's attitude if he were to request aid for a northern Sinai waterwork--as a joint project that would contribute to the advancement of peace. Sadat already chose the second possibility; but, in this case, if Israel excitedly joined the project, U.S. financial support would come not only from the foreign aid meant for Egypt but also from the money budgeted for Israel, since it would be a cooperative venture.

Although this project is very seductive (strengthened in the wake of the psychological effect of the drought of '79), it is necessary to be controlled and to weigh properly the pros and cons before taking a formal stand.

9182

CSO: 4805

ISRAEL

PROBE SHOWS MULTIPLE ERRORS CAUSED POWER BLACKOUT

Jerusalem JERUSALEM POST in English 29 Oct 79 p 2

[Article by Benny Morris]

[Text]

A five-man committee appointed by Energy Minister Moda'i to investigate the nationwide power blackout of October 9 has determined the reasons for the failure, but "is not fully convinced that they had to lead to a total national blackout."

This was one of the "preliminary conclusions" of the committee submitted to the ministry last Wednesday and made public by the ministry yesterday. A final report is expected in about three weeks, the ministry said.

The investigators said that the breakdown occurred because of three factors, none of which alone would have led to the failure.

At fault were maintenance at the Yarkon switching station, which did not conform to standing safety regulations; maintenance at the same facility, which did not conform to a specific work order; and the tur-

ning off of a wrong switch by two Electric Corporation technicians.

The committee, according to Ram Haviv, deputy director-general at the ministry in charge of electricity, said that the work load was not excessive and the systems prior to the failure were in reasonable order.

Once the failure occurred, said the committee's report, the blackout of the centre of the country and of part of northern Israel was inevitable. "But the committee is not fully convinced that the errors had to lead to a total national blackout," it states.

The mechanisms safeguarding the equipment at the various stations functioned properly and no equipment was destroyed as a result of the blackout, states the report.

The committee is headed by Technion electronics professor Michael Erlitzky. It includes Prof. Arthur Shavit, the ministry's chief scientist, another ministry engineer, and two Electric Corporation engineers.

CSO: 4820

KUWAIT

U.S. SEEN ATTEMPTING TO MANIPULATE MIDEAST AREA

Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 24 Sep 79 pp 1, 19

[Editorial: "To Explode the Myth That All Roads Lead to Washington"]

[Text] When one examines the map of the Arab world, one sees clearly that every Arab country is in a defensive position. The assault on the region includes all the Arab states, the rejectionists as well as the moderates. Initially, there was a belief that the U.S. attempt to make the Arabs toe the American line was aimed at the rejectionist states, but judging by the gathering storm over the Gulf region and the Arabian Peninsula, to say nothing of the Maghrib [North Africa], it has become evident that the Americans intend to spare no one, rejectionist or moderate. Their aim is to coerce everyone into submission--to smother every sign of life. The truth is that, for vainglorious reasons, and egged on by the Zionists who control it, the United States, in dealing with the problems and states of the region, is behaving with an arrogance and defiance that surpass all description. Not even the moderate states are exempt from this treatment. As usual, the pretext for this behavior is the Americans' psychological complex over the danger of communism. They fancy that as long as they delineate the limits beyond which we may not venture, we will remain securely on the end of their leash, and, as in the days of ancient Rome, all our roads will continue to lead to Washington.

It is now evident that the danger of communism, whose roots have never prospered in the Arab world, is not the only one that faces us. There are other danger signals, and some of these have already flashed under our eyes and in the name of our religion, our shield against communism. There are those who seek to destroy this shield from within and thus open the way to an unlikely and remote Communist threat.

Despite these unmistakable signs, there are those who still believe that our security rests with Washington and that our destiny, like it or not, will be determined there in collusion with Israel and the Camp [David] group.

We do not deny our weaknesses. We do believe, however, that we can withstand the onslaught and emerge from our defensive position to return to normality. This is the only path toward genuine regional and national security, as well as security of the civilized world.

There are those who, most likely due to habit, feel insecure about using a fresh approach to deal with the situation. They are uncomfortable about using unfamiliar words and abandoning familiar ones. They feel uneasy about adopting a new line. They must remember, however, that the problem is related to our destiny. The United States, in its go-for-broke assault, has gone beyond all established standards. It is determined to cut Arab veins and connecting tissue from within. How else can we interpret the events enveloping the area from the Mediterranean to the Gulf? Our mistake was to make the first concession. The moment we permitted the United States, through Israel, to strike, pressure, and move at will, while we capitulated and retreated, we in fact not only surrendered our destiny to it, but intensified its desire to bring us to our knees. We must remember that he who kneels once continues to kneel. In the words of al-Mutanabbi, the great Arab poet, "He who permits himself to be degraded finds further degradation easier to accept." The poet could have added that he who accepts an insult encourages further insults. This is what is happening to the Arabs in their dealings with the United States, with Israel, and the world community. For years now, we have incessantly begged the United States to pressure Israel to stop its destructive war against south Lebanon. We have used every possible means to plead with Washington. Our supplications went in vain, much like blowing into a punctured goatskin. Perhaps that is the way things ought to be. He who begs is weak or unwilling to use his strength. To hell with us, then, and with our destiny. Had we stopped begging while we were strong, the outcome would have been quite different. Now that no inviolable borders remain in the region, except Israel's "secure borders," what are we waiting for? Rather, is there anything left for us to wait for?

9063  
CSO: 4802

KUWAIT

GOVERNMENT ACTS AGAINST SHI'ITE DISSIDENTS

Paris AL-MUSTAQBAL in Arabic 29 Sep 79 p 18

[Article: "Government Withdraws Citizenship of Religious Provocateurs"]

[Text] The Kuwaiti Government is determined to take severe and decisive measures against religious provocateurs. A Kuwaiti official told AL-MUSTAQBAL that the Kuwaiti people view the announcements made on the subject by Prime Minister Shaykh Sa'd al-Abdallah al-Sabah and Foreign Minister Nawwaf al-Ahmad al-Sabah as an appropriate response to anyone who attempts to tamper with the country's security or flaunt its laws. The Kuwaiti people, according to the official, are in fact demanding that punitive measures against suspect movements measure up to the threats implicit in the announcements. "Failing that," he added, "people opposed to religious bigotry and division will lose faith in their government."

Governmental measures went into effect immediately. Last Saturday, the government cancelled a planned Shi'ite gathering at the Haji Sha'aban Mosque in the nearly all Shi'ite Darb area. All roads leading to the mosque were closed. A stiff warning threatening severe penalties was issued and directed at would-be preachers who might use the occasion for other than purely religious purposes. The governmental action, however, exempted people who went to the mosque to pray, provided they left immediately after the prayer service. Police patrol cars, ambulances, and tow trucks were stationed around the mosque and in the immediate vicinity. A large number of police and security men were standing by. The planned assembly was subsequently cancelled. Some people prayed and went home. There were no incidents. The government action did not end here. Aware for some time that the Shi'ite stirring was not a spur of the moment affair, the government is planning further measures against its organizers. It is expected that the government will soon act to deprive 'Abbas al-Mahri and his son Ahmad, who are currently under investigation, of their Kuwaiti citizenship. The government is convinced that the two are directed by elements outside the country. Mr Abbas' entire family, who acquired citizenship after a long residence in Kuwait, will also lose their citizenship. It is possible that the family will be expelled from the country.

In another action, the government confiscated the passports of several Kuwaitis, including lawyer Khalid Khalaf (a former member of Parliament), who has participated in Shi'ite activities, Dr Hamad Nusayr, a former deputy oil minister, and 'Adnan al-Sayyid 'Abd al-Samad, in view of the fact that these activities contravene the laws of the country. Several persons were detained a day or two for questioning. They were subsequently released with a warning to desist from illegal activities.

A senior Kuwaiti official told AL-MUSTAQBAL that the government's actions will be decisive and may increase in severity if the troublesome elements persist in their activities. He added that, to date, the government has been patient and tolerant. According to this official, the government permitted the activists to move freely in order to gather detailed information about their sources of support.

It appears that the quick visit to Kuwait and a few other Gulf states by Iraq's deputy prime minister and defense minister, Lt Gen 'Adnan Khayrallah, is related to recent events in Bahrain and Kuwait. AL-MUSTAQBAL has learned that General Khayrallah has given documents to and exchanged intelligence information with officials of the countries he visited and pledged his country's cooperation in the future. AL-MUSTAQBAL has further learned that Baghdad and the Gulf states visited by the general have formally agreed to exchange information on the activities of religious sects that have blossomed in the wake of the Iranian revolution.

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CSO: 4802

LEBANON

STATEMENT BY THE SIDON POLITICAL COUNCIL

Beirut AL-SAFIR in Arabic 2 Oct 79 p 4

[Article: "Sidon Council Reveals Role of the 'Organizations' in Acts of Sabotage in Sidon, Sur, and the Villages; 'No' to Army Which Sows Discord, 'Yes' to Army Which Liberates the South"]

[Text] The regional political council of the city of Sidon issued a statement yesterday concerning the arrested members of the "Second Office" organization. The statement contained the following:

"Since the Israeli subduing of our beloved South and the subsequent partial withdrawal of the Zionist assault forces, and since the summoning of the international emergency forces to implement the consecutive resolutions of the international Security Council, the first and most fundamental of these being Resolution 425 which calls for the achievement of complete Israeli withdrawal, the entry of the emergency forces and their deployment on the recognized international border, and the subsequent entry of the official authorities along with their administration and organizations for the purpose of reclaiming national sovereignty over all the territory of South Lebanon--since these developments, the Lebanese National Movement has affirmed on every occasion, with every occurrence, and in daily and continuous practice its firm fundamental position in support of the return of the authorities to their positions and their role. We continue to urge these authorities to renounce their policy of hesitation, collusion, and partiality, whether intentional or not, in order to take matters firmly in hand by exposing the forces which have impeded and continue to impede implementation of the Security Council resolutions and substantiation of the Zionist occupation of a portion of the national territory. However, the authorities have remained incapable of making such a decision. We have realized that the authorities are carrying out the instructions of the American ambassador, bowing before Israeli extortion, showing favor toward partitioning schemes, and putting their resources at the service of the Zionized sectarian isolationist faction. We have realized that such authorities will not fight--even politically--to regain their occupied land, but will invent pretexts and excuses to cover up their unpatriotic and effete position."

The statement continued: "Within this framework, the official authorities had the audacity to fabricate the barrage of information concerning the issue of the army's entry into the Sur and Nabatiyah areas and no others, while they stood watching the disgusting butcheries perpetrated against the Armenian sect by the bands of Bashir al-Jumayyil and Camille Sham'un. They refused to send in their army to stop these butcheries, which were slated to continue with the aim of subduing the nationalist Armenian sect and other pockets of resistance to the isolationist ghetto, partition schemes, and Zionization. This information barrage by the authorities assumed a physical dimension in our nationalist areas in the form of the base actions and crimes which have been and continue to be perpetrated against the masses of the South who are suffering the agonies of bloodshed in their magnificent steadfastness and resistance in the face of the vicious attack of the Israeli-isolationist alliance.

"These actions manifested themselves in 'services' of the Second Office in the cities and villages. Herewith some samples:

"1. In Nabatiyah: Firing on civilian vehicles on the al-Duwayr road in al-Numayriyah; distribution of slips of paper bearing slogans hostile to the National Movement and shamelessly supportive of Israel; sniping operations against a military vehicle belonging to one of the National Movement parties in an attempt to sow discord either among groups within the National Movement or between National Movement groups and groups belonging to the Palestinian revolution.

"2. In Sur: Placing of explosives and explosive charges in some shops and houses, as if the Israeli bombing were not enough for the heroic city of Sur.

"3. In the villages: Mobilization of old agents and buying of new agents for the purpose of sowing discord, generating propaganda for suspicious (peace) schemes, and arousing sectarian chauvinism.

"4. On the barricades where Lebanese Army elements are present with the international emergency forces: Agitation of nationalist youth to draw us into a clash with the nominal army force, so as to make us appear to be opposing and rejecting the presence of the authorities and their 'huge' army.

"5. Last but not least, the Second Office, headed by Officer Qasim (Sabalini), dared in the city of Sidon to commit the crime of harming the security of the citizens, sowing discord and inciting people to demonstrate and strike in order to bring public life to a halt and impair stability and tranquillity in this nationalist city which today embraces all of the South.

"Officer (Sabalini) deceived certain persons and bought their consciences with money and promises of government posts, compelling them to print and distribute an undated statement under an assumed name calling for strikes and demonstrations. Naturally, Sidon rejected these suspicious



attempts. The city remains faithful to its nationalist steadfastness and its fighting heritage which its martyrs, foremost among them the chief martyr of the South, Ma'ruf Sa'd, supported and bequeathed by their blood. Our National Movement and joint forces were lying in wait for all intrigues of the agents, watching their movements and counting their every breath. Thus they were able to expose, arrest, and interrogate these agents, whereupon they confessed the crime they had committed under compulsion of threat or enticement."

The statement continued: "The mistaken and even treasonous practices on the part of the authorities and some of their organizations with respect to our masses will not force us to relinquish our firm and definite position on the issue of the deployment of the army, which we now reaffirm.

"Our position on the army's entry into the South is governed by the role of this army in the South and the mission which it is sent to accomplish. We are the first to say 'yes' to an army--any army--which will advance to close the gates of shame, annihilate Sa'd Haddad's bands which are the agents of Israel, and liberate the occupied national territory. For such an army with such a role, we will not only permit entry but will rally around its banner and fight within its ranks and under its command.

"We say 'no' to an army which sows discord, sanctions the occupation, and suppresses and subjugates the masses. We not only say 'no' to such an army, but will prevent it from entering or being sent in."

Also pertaining to the entry of the army into the South, the joint command of the National Movement in the South issued the following statement:

"The joint command of the Lebanese National Movement in the South has discussed the latest developments in the political and security situation, and dwelled particularly on the matter of the 'entry of the army' into the South. It became clear after the discussion that forces belonging to the Lebanese Army entered the operations area of the emergency forces while refusing to enter or make any attempt to enter the area of the agent militias in the border strip.

"Thus it is confirmed once again before everyone that the state strives for the entry of the army into the nationalist areas, while there has been no indication that it intends to extend its authority over all Lebanese territory. This is shown by its failure to this point to effectively control, for example, the Tripoli-Beirut road, the area of al-Ashrafiyah, and lastly an area of 1,000 [square] kilometers still maintained under the aegis of the forces led by the traitor Sa'd Haddad."

The statement added: "In this regard, the joint command is anxious to reaffirm that any entry by the army into the South which fails to include all Lebanese areas, fails to close the 'gates of shame' on the border, and fails to put a final end to the activities of Sa'd Haddad's bands is a move which conceals many dangers and designs against the Lebanese national existence and threatens the national fate of the South with numerous perils.

APPROVED FOR RELEASE: 2007/02/08: CIA-RDP82-00850R000200020043-0

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"It is also important for the joint command to point out the positive role of its forces in the village of Bar'ashit, where they have done everything possible for the international emergency forces in the way of facilitation and cooperation so that these forces can perform their role, while the (Bet Yabon) barricade remains within sight and hearing of the emergency forces, a continuing source of intimidation and transgressions."

8591  
CSO: 4802

LEBANON

ARAB ARMY OF LEBANON HOLDS GRADUATION

Beirut AL-NAHAR in Arabic 2 Oct 79 p 4

[Article: "Arab Army of Lebanon Completes 'Jamal 'Abd-al-Nasir Course'"]

[Text] The Arab Army of Lebanon announced that 2 days ago it graduated a group of new troops in a course which bore the name of "Jamal 'Abd-al-Nasir." The ceremony was attended by Representative Zahir al-Khatib, Mr Mahmud 'Abd-al-Khaliq, chief of defense in the Syrian Social Nationalist Party, Mr Munir al-Jayyad, representative of the Arab Socialist Union-Nasirite Organization and consul of the Libyan Jamahiriya in Lebanon, and representatives of the National Front, the Palestinian revolution, the Followers of the Revolution Movement, the Revolutionary Committees, the Popular Committees and Confederations, the Union of Scholars, the Confederation of Unionist Egyptian Students in Lebanon, the Egyptian Nasirite Popular Organization, and the Lebanon branch of the Unionist Nasirites in Sudan. Also attending were representatives of the Beirut Municipality Labor Union, Shaykh 'Adil al-'Uryan, and delegations from the regions.

Al-Sayyad delivered the address of the Central Political Council of the Nationalist Parties and Forces, in which he affirmed "that the army does not absolutely reject legality, but we want it to be an army which is nationalist in its composition and ethnic orientation, and we want it to be an army which will fight against the Israeli enemy and liberate the border strip."

Representative al-Khatib gave a speech in which he attacked the authorities and warned "the agents in the al-Shuf area against implementing the designs of the Lebanese Front." He also demanded that the army oppose the Israeli enemy.

The next speaker was Shaykh 'Adil al-'Uryan, who saluted the Arab Army of Lebanon and regarded it as the "starting point from which to build the army of Lebanon."

The commander of the Arab Army of Lebanon, First Lieutenant Ahmad al-Khatib, made a speech in which he enumerated the outstanding traits of 'Abd-al-Nasir and opposed President Sarkis, charging him with incompetence and accusing

him of preparing an army which "lacks the trust of the masses and has a sectarian command as its foundation," and of drafting a "law for the defense of the agents of Israel which is devoid of any combat doctrine, but has making a living as its constitution and surrender and dependency as its statutes." He believed that building the army "can be accomplished only by firmly establishing Lebanon's identity, sanctioning justice and equality, and completely eliminating dealings with the Israeli enemy."

He felt that the army is being sent into the South "for the sake of extortion." He said: "Sending in the army on the pretext of extending the influence of the authorities so that the excuse for the occupation of the South can be eliminated is extortion in order to impose what the Lebanese Front was unable to impose with weapons."

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CSO: 4802

LEBANON

DUTIES OF GENDARMES IN NABATIYAH DESCRIBED

Beirut AL-NAHAR in Arabic 2 Oct 79 p 4

[Article by Admun Shadid: "Gendarme Platoon in Nabatiyah Performs Multifaceted Role:]

[Text] The commander of the gendarme platoon in Nabatiyah, First Lieutenant Anwar Yahya, held a security meeting yesterday which brought together the chiefs of the gendarme stations in the area. The chiefs submitted their reports on the general situation to the commander, and he gave them the new instructions he had received from the company commander, Maj As'ad Dahir, and asked that they implement these instructions precisely and rapidly.

In addition, First Lieutenant Yahya received a number of citizens who were consulting him concerning reparations. He promised them that he would submit their claims to the competent authorities.

The gendarme station in Nabatiyah confirms the statement of damages, prepares the official reports on the dead and wounded, and submits the paperwork to the council of South Lebanon, resulting eventually in payment of reparations. The men of the station also deal with incidents involving conduct and infractions of the law, and prepare reports which are submitted to the public prosecutor's office in Sidon. In another area, the gendarmerie maintains coordination with the governor of South Lebanon and concerns itself with general conditions. First Lieutenant Yahya submitted a detailed report on road conditions and demanded that the Habbush-'Arab Salim road be paved and a bridge constructed on it, because the old road between Kafr Raman and 'Arab Salim was exposed to sniping, thus hindering travel.

It has been learned that the governor of South Lebanon, Halim Fayyad, gave his orders to the Social Reconstruction Agency in Nabatiyah to carry out the distribution of food under the supervision of the gendarme platoon. First Lieutenant Yahya had requested that the governor keep the schools open to receive students in the villages of Kafr Tabnit, Yahmar, and Arnun and make the teachers confirm attendance during official working hours, which will help keep residents in their villages and limit emigration.

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CSO: 4802

MOROCCO

BOUCETTA DISCUSSES 'GOOD' RELATIONS WITH SPAIN

LD131442 Madrid EL PAIS in Spanish 7 Nov 79 p 14 LD

[Interview with M'Hamed Boucetta, Moroccan foreign minister, by Domingo del Pino: "We Expect Spain To Maintain Its Neutrality in Sahara Dispute" --Rabat, date not given]

[Excerpt] Rabat--[Question] What is the state of relations between Spain and Morocco following King Juan Carlos' visit in June?

[Answer] That visit is precisely the framework within which our relations should develop. It was decided during King Juan Carlos' visit to first set up certain committees--in particular, the committee of which [Spanish foreign minister] Oreja and I myself are cochairmen, concerning the tunnel under the Straits of Gibraltar. My visit is a consequence of these decisions.

Of course, there are other problems in Spanish-Moroccan relations, such as cultural agreements, certain still unresolved disputes, the issue of pensions and that of the colonized territories, and, of course, problems on the political level.

[Question] Is there not also a social security agreement under negotiation?

[Answer] Yes, we will sign the agreements which are ready for signing and the others will be examined to expedite them. This will be an interesting contact in all fields.

[Question] But how would you describe relations between Madrid and Rabat at present?

[Answer] They are good but we must make them better. This cannot be achieved through inactivity or lack of contact. On the contrary, we must increase contacts. We must sincerely and clearly explain to each other the matters which need explanation and explain our viewpoints to our Spanish interlocutors, because our relations should become more active than at present.

[Question] I have heard that Prime Minister Maati Bouabid is also to visit Madrid soon. What truth is there in this?

[Answer] It was in fact envisaged that his visit to Madrid should immediately follow King Juan Carlos' visit, but a prime minister's visit certainly requires greater preparation; this will be discussed during my stay in Madrid, and perhaps we will be able to set the date and the conditions under which it will take place--that is, the problems which will be discussed.

[Question] You have mentioned unresolved disputes between Morocco and Spain. Can you specify them?

[Answer] Yes. I am referring to the colonized territories, agriculture, social security, pensions, and so forth. It is to this that I am referring.

Spain, Historical Witness

[Question] Morocco has requested several countries to abstain in the debate of the fourth committee of the current UN General Assembly. What does Morocco expect in this connection from the Spanish Government?

[Answer] What we expect from Spain--as we have always explained--is that it maintain its neutrality, since its responsibilities in the Sahara have ceased. That is all. Although we could ask it, as a historical witness, to say that that territory always belonged to Morocco.

We are aware of the balance of forces currently existing in Spain, and we do not wish to create difficulties for our friends. As far as we are concerned, the matter is clear. We resolved it with Spain in accordance with the principles of international law and as a result of the appeal by international bodies. That is why our problems with Spain, as far as the Sahara is concerned, are over.

[Question] The Spanish-Moroccan fisheries agreement, which has not yet been ratified by Morocco, has been taken by Spanish public opinion as a symbol of the state of relations between Madrid and Rabat. What is the current state of its ratification by Morocco?

[Answer] All the problems with Spain will be analyzed during my visit in order to make progress in them in the two countries' interest. As far as fisheries are concerned, I am not in a position to tell you at present the exact state of the study which has been conducted in this connection, but I know that this is one of the matters capable of analysis to expedite it at the most favorable rate.

[Question] Is it envisaged that it will be discussed during your visit to Spain?



[Answer] Not especially. But if this topic is raised, there is no objection to discussing it.

[Question] Relations between Spain and Morocco have undergone a period of strain, even very recently. What is happening between the two countries?

[Answer] I believe that it is necessary to eliminate passion from situations which, in my opinion, have been artificially and superficially created. Morocco's relations with Spain should be privileged, and this is what we have always reiterated. We know Spain's difficulties in establishing its institutions and its policy in all fields after several decades under a certain regime. We also know what prospects we have in Morocco for being able to develop these relations in all fields.

For my part--and in this I believe that I am expressing the Moroccan people's opinion--we desire to make the Spanish people a friendly people and to cooperate with them. I am aware that we may have difficulties of understanding on certain matters, but I believe that it is necessary to avoid extreme stances with Spain.

CSO: 4410

MOROCCO

BOUCETTA INTERVIEWED ON SAHARA QUESTION

LD090702 Madrid Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 8 Nov 79 LD

[Interview with M'Hamed Boucetta, Moroccan foreign minister, by Pedro Fernandez Cespedes--date and place not given]

[Excerpts] International policy has been the subject of the visit and talks of the Moroccan foreign minister in Spain, and his meeting with the prime minister. At the end of the afternoon there was a press conference with the Moroccan foreign minister. Pedro Fernandez Cespedes was also there and he reports:

At the press conference, which also brought the visit of the Moroccan delegation to an end, Foreign Minister Boucetta insisted that the reason for his coming to Spain this time was to find solutions for every problem. We repeat, every problem. Nevertheless, 90 percent of the questions centered on one subject--the situation in the former Spanish Sahara. Although, as we said, this was the subject that took precedence over all others, Mr Boucetta, in his introductory remarks, said that the activities of the Moroccan delegation in Spain during the last few days had been productive, useful and efficacious, and that his contacts with Prime Minister Suarez and his colleague, Oreja Aquirre, had been important and positive.

Apart from the subject of the Sahara, the results of the Moroccan delegation's visit to Spain are essentially a series of agreements which the foreign minister of Morocco released to us at this press conference:

[Begin Boucetta recording in French fading to Spanish translation] Agreements have been signed, among which one might mention one on scientific and technical cooperation. A cultural agreement and an agreement on social security have also been signed. Part of the matter in dispute on recuperated territory has also been solved. Other agreements are being prepared, including a plan to link Africa with Europe at the Straits of Gibraltar. We also spoke of common problems with reference to Africa, the Middle East and the world in general. Our talks have been positive. [end recording]

After this general resume was made, as we said, the primary subject was that of the Sahara. Speaking on this subject, on the stands of Spain and Morocco, these were the first words of Foreign Minister Boucetta:

[Begin Boucetta recording] I believe there has always been a common ground between us. The problem of the Sahara was not the main subject-- it is a subject that has already been dealt with.

You already know Spain's stand and it's not my job to lay it out. Morocco is reporting to its friends of the development of the situation in the region. [end recording]

He said specifically and emphatically on several occasions during the press conference that the problem for Morocco was that of defending its territorial integrity, which has been on various occasions attacked by armed groups who carry out increasingly effective actions.

We shall find out, Mr Boucetta said, how events develop from the news agencies. He was asked about the UN resolution, the last one, which contradicts Morocco's policy; about Spain's abstention on the resolution-- that is to say it did not vote--and about the declarations of the Algerian Government to the effect that the presence of Moroccan troops on the border jeopardizes peace in the zone:

[Begin Boucetta recording] On the first point, every country is free and sovereign to choose what position it likes on problems that have been being debated for some time in the United Nations. There is a lack of understanding on this point. Explanations are necessary. We shall make the countries that belong to the United Nations aware of just what is at stake. During the Spanish occupation it was a problem of decolonization. Consequently, the problem was put forward in the United Nations. Decolonization has ended, and now Morocco wants to express its viewpoint in a more precise and clear way. The explanations we shall give will make certain countries understand this. It is a question of territory under Moroccan sovereignty, according to UN Resolution 1514, and we have to explain this viewpoint. So, it is really a question of international law. Insofar as the situation in the territory is concerned, Morocco is the victim of aggression. It has to adapt itself to counter this aggression by armed force and by incorporating the land that belongs to it into its national territory. You said that there are Moroccan troops near Algerian troops. I assert that these Moroccan troops are on Moroccan territory. [end recording]

This was a constant theme Mr Boucetta stressed throughout the press conference. Morocco will defend its territory even, if necessary, to the last Moroccan. He then recalled that King Hassan II has proposed a zone of cooperation around the Sahara. The proposal is an attempt to achieve peace based on respect for the right of sovereignty. The Organization of

African Unity, in the opinion of the Moroccan minister of foreign affairs, should try to harmonize the viewpoints of the interested countries without taking sides on the matter. And, since throughout the entire press conference he spoke of peace, stability and cooperation, he was reminded that when he is asked about the POLISARIO Front he says that he does not know of it. He was then asked who, in the event of reaching negotiations, would the negotiators be, who would be speaking to each other, he gave a short answer to a long question:

[Begin Boucetta recording] Morocco and Algeria. [end recording]

In conclusion, Boucetta spoke of the plan to link Morocco and Spain by land, which means that Europe and Africa would be joined by road. The Moroccan minister confirmed that the governments of both countries have already decided to study a plan, although it could not yet be said whether it was a question of a tunnel or a bridge. The financing of the plan would be no problem since the tunnel or the bridge would serve as a link between the economies of the two continents. A possible road, Mr Boucetta said, between Leningrad and Kinshasa will attract certain countries to participate in the plan.

CSO: 4410

MOROCCO

MOROCCO, ALGERIA MUST 'REDISCOVER' IFRANE SPIRIT

LD091015 Casablanca LE MATIN in French 4 Nov 79 pp 1, 3 LD

[Ahmed Alaoui article: "Peace in the Maghreb"]

[Excerpt] His Majesty King Hassan II himself stated in an interview recently given to [French television] Channel Two:

"Any war can be concluded by applying a political solution to it, we are pledged to achieve such a solution."

This means that all concerned are prepared to discuss peace, negotiations, dialog and a political solution.

However, it is necessary to determine how these wishes can be fulfilled in practice.

But first let us observe that a political solution has been mentioned in Algiers only since Morocco started building up its defense potential and armaments. In fact, Morocco has been forced to wage war and has been repulsing acts of aggression for the past 4 years using improvised if not limited means, a fact which has not prevented it from driving the mercenaries out every time they tried to seize parts of our territory. However, ever since it became known that Morocco will have the arms it needs to deal with the arms possessed by the other side and thus reduce a flagrant imbalance, the tone has changed. The peevish, even hatred-filled reaction which marked the announcement that the United States will supply arms to Morocco is significant in this respect. Hopes were entertained that as a result of various pressures Morocco would be prevented from acquiring the means it needs to defend itself and would be forced to accept an imposed peace.

We believe that our ability to negotiate from strength is a precondition for any peace initiative.

Having said this, our determination to defend ourselves is only equalled by our willingness to negotiate. However, first and foremost, we must gain control over the territory and, especially, remain vigilant, not to say mistrustful. We must not reduce our war effort under the pretext that peace is being mentioned by everybody and, as a result, fall into a trap to be

expected in the prevailing situation. We have repeatedly fallen victim to our good faith and desire for peace. Therefore, it is more than ever necessary to remain vigilant.

However, in accordance with everybody's wishes, we are willing to enter into negotiations with Algeria. True, Algiers has rejected the idea of such negotiations, but international opinion is perfectly aware that, in fact, that present dispute involves the two countries and that nothing can be settled without direct contact.

Algiers will be the more willing to engage in negotiations because the presence on its soil of an international brigade armed to the teeth entails some problems for it, since there have been many examples in history of troops of this kind--centurions in Rome and Janissaries in the Ottoman Empire, for instance--being finally used for a purpose completely different from that for which they were created.

In fact, a disagreement had existed between Morocco and Algeria long before the Sahara conflict arose. This conflict is a consequence of the original disagreement, its by-product, as it were, and a means for exerting pressure on Morocco which will become a problem of only secondary importance for Algeria once dialog at last begins.

The original dispute was partly settled as a result of the 1969 Ifrane agreement and the conventions signed and statement issued during the 1974 ninth OAU summit in Rabat.

Therefore, it is necessary to rediscover the Ifrane spirit and go back to the Rabat agreements and this can only be achieved through direct negotiations. A settlement of disputes between the two countries is a political prerequisite for any settlement which will at last open wide the doors to peace in the Maghreb.

CSO: 4400

MOROCCO

'LE MATIN' DENIES MOROCCO IS ANTI-SOVIET, HITS USSR SAHARA STANCE

LD071053 Casablanca LE MATIN in French 26 Oct 79 pp 1, 4 LD

[Ahmed Alaoui Article: "About Principles and Deeds"]

[Excerpt] In a series of articles in which we analyzed and criticized objectively the Soviet Union's policy with respect to the Sahara conflict we denounced the communist bloc's support for our adversaries both in the political and in the military spheres and referred, among other things, to the supply of ultrasophisticated arms to mercenaries through Algeria and Libya.

This behavior constitutes a hostile act toward Morocco since Moscow is fully aware that these arms will be used to support acts of aggression against our territory and army.

Therefore, it seems clear that the communist bloc is an objective ally of our adversaries.

We also recalled that Morocco has always looked upon the USSR as a friendly country. We have always sought to insure that our relations with the Soviet Union are of an exemplary nature. Neither Morocco nor its politicians nor its press have ever indulged in either systematic anti-Sovietism or visceral anticommunism. Is there any need to recall in connection with this that Morocco is the only Third World country in which a communist party is allowed to exist legally and where it can freely express its ideas? Furthermore, the Moroccan Communist Party is what is called an orthodox party--it is pro-Soviet.

All that we ask for in return is reciprocity.

Furthermore, we have concluded important cooperation agreements with the USSR and Morocco is the Soviet Union's most important trade partner in Africa. This should also deserve some consideration.

As we mentioned before, the Soviet Union and its allies have instead adopted a profoundly hostile attitude toward us, at least as far as the Sahara problem is concerned.

With respect to this, Comrade Ali 'Yata's reactions have been significant. In a long article entitled "Let Us Have the Courage To Revise Our Policy" published in his newspaper AL-BAYANE he attacks our views and does his utmost to justify the Soviet policy with respect to the Sahara conflict.

CSO: 4400

MOROCCO

USSR AMBASSADOR ON 'VERY GOOD RESULTS' OF COOPERATION WITH MOROCCO

LD091533 Casablanca LE MATIN in French 3 Nov 79 p 4 LD

[Unattributed report: "Soviet-Moroccan Relations Are Excellent"]

[Text] Celebrating the 63d anniversary of the Russian revolution, the Morocco-USSR Friendship Association organized at the Soviet Cultural Center in Rabat various events in which diplomats, writers and some other personalities participated.

Speaking on this occasion, Soviet Ambassador to Morocco Yevgeniy Nersesov first mentioned the level of development achieved by the Soviet socialist republics and the actions which have made it possible. He then discussed Moroccan-Soviet relations.

The ambassador stated with reference to these relations: "I am very pleased to be able to observe that relations between the USSR and Morocco based on friendship and cooperation are now developing at an even more rapid rate on the basis of strict respect for the principle of equality of rights and mutual advantage, providing a good example of relations between states with different social systems."

Discussing at some length the nature of these relations, Nersesov emphasized the fact that the USSR contributes toward development in Morocco. The two countries cooperate in all spheres, including the cultural sphere, to which, the diplomat continued, special attention is paid by the Soviet government, as is shown by the fact that not less than 300 young Moroccans are studying in the Soviet Union and at least 250 have been trained there.

Calling for increased cooperation between the two countries, which has already produced very good results, the ambassador expressed the view that friendship associations should be created both in Morocco and in the USSR to acquaint people with the two countries' cultural achievements and contribute to the development of mutual relations.

Thanking the Morocco-USSR Friendship Association for its initiative, Nersesov stated that it contributed greatly to the strengthening of the bonds existing between the two countries.

CS0: 4400



MOROCCO

MOROCCAN SOCIALISTS URGE RELEASE OF PARTY MEMBERS HELD IN ALGIERS

LD080951 Casablanca LE MATIN in French 31 Oct 79 p 3 LD

[Map report: "USFP Letter to Eight Progressive Arab Parties"]

[Text] Rabat, 31 October--The [Moroccan] Socialist Union of People's Forces (USFP) has sent a letter to eight progressive Arab political parties asking them to call on the Algerian authorities to release some of its members arrested in Algiers recently for refusing to support Algiers' ideas on Algerian policy in Northwest Africa.

In its letter, published on Tuesday by AL-MUHARRIR, the USFP maintains that the Algerian authorities have launched a wave of arrests among USFP militants in Algeria who, despite "administrative pressures, mental coercion and attempts to bribe them," reject Algeria's proposals which are aimed at making them adopt a hostile attitude to our people's struggle for their territorial integrity.

"For instance," the letter adds, "Mr Ibrahim Kamal and Mr Mustapha el-Ammari, who have been living in Algeria since 1963, were arrested last week and held at military police headquarters without any specific charge being brought or legal proof provided aside from the fact that they refused and still refuse to support the separatist and tribal ideas upheld by the Algerian authorities under the cloak of self-determination for our Saquiet al Hamra and Oued Eddahab Saharan zones.

"Therefore," the letter adds, "the USFP politburo asks you to do all you can to approach the Algerian National Liberation Front urgently to obtain the release of all those detained and permission for them to leave Algeria."

This letter has been sent to the Destourian Socialist Party (Tunisia), the national command of the Ba'ath Arab Socialist Party (Syria and Iraq), the Progressive Socialist Party (Lebanon), the PLO, the National Progressive Unionist Party (Egypt), the Yemen Socialist Party (South Yemen) and the Socialist Revolutionary Party (Somalia).

CSO: 4400

MOROCCO

OPPOSITIONIST REFUTES CLAIMS OF ARREST OF USFP ACTIVISTS

Algiers AL-SHA'B in Arabic 29 Oct 79 p 5

[Text] In a press conference held in Algiers on 28 October, Mr Mohamed Latifi El Ammari, a former activist in the Moroccan National Union of People's Forces, categorically denied that he had been arrested during his stay in Algeria or that he had been subjected to any kind of pressure.

In a text which he delivered to the press, Mr Latifi castigated the biased attitudes of the Western news agencies which have reported news without verifying its source and authenticity.

In its latest issue, the Moroccan Socialist [Text incorrectly uses 'National.'] Union of People's Forces (USFP) weekly LIBERATION reported that USFP activists residing in Algeria were being arrested. Mr Latifi El Ammari who is also known by his nom de guerre, Moustapha El Ammari, is presently working as a professor of economics at the Technological Institute for Commerce in Ben-Aknoun.

After residing in Algeria since independence, he went to Yugoslavia in 1964 to continue his education.

In 1965, he was residing in Syria where he received training in the Palestinian camps. Mr Latifi returned to Algeria in 1970 to work as a teacher.

After the failure of the 23 Mars opposition movement, it appears that he ceased all political activities in the opposition to the Moroccan regime. He has called for the unification of movements in opposition to Hassan II for the sake of more effective political action.

CSO: 4402

SYRIA

#### DEVELOPMENT OF FREE ZONES PRAISED

Damascus AL-THAWRAH in Arabic 15 Sep 79 p 5

[Article: "Syrian Free Zones: a Forward-Looking Experiment in the Area of Free Zones Throughout the World"]

[Text] Syrian free zones, a fruit of the rectification movement led by struggling comrade Hafiz al-Asad, President of the Syrian Arab Republic, are rapidly and continuously expanding their full national, Arab, and international dimensions in promoting economic and social development in the Syrian Arab Region and in helping, both directly and indirectly, to revive the national economy and provide it with financial and technological resources, expertise and potential and, consequently, helping to increase national and per capita income, to provide large numbers of new jobs, and to improve the standard of living of the Syrian Arab citizen. From another angle, with their flexibility, facilities, incentives, and exemptions [from certain financial regulations], they play a major role in promoting Arab, foreign, and joint projects, investments, and activities, particularly in attracting back emigrant national expertise and capital. Although the Syrian free zones are still in the final stage of establishment, they have had excellent results and augur an optimistic future.

#### Establishment and Development of Free Zones in Syria

With the dawning of the rectification movement, the General Organization for Free Zones was created as a public institution of an economic character in the public sector, with financial and administrative independence and the capability of conducting commercial dealings with others in accordance with the provisions of the trade law. It is directly linked to the minister of economy and foreign trade, and its primary missions were defined by Decree No 18, dated 18 February 1971.

#### The Free Zones Concept

Free Zones are part of the national territory but are defined, closed off, and isolated from the territory of the homeland and are regarded as outside the customs area. To put it another way, they are considered a neutral

customs area where it is permitted to engage in commercial storage, establishment of industries, and financial operations designed for reexport for the purpose of international trade.

They are not liable for customs duties on goods entering from abroad, and they do not fall under the economic restrictions and regulations or currency laws in effect within the region. Industrial operations can be performed on goods and materials coming in, and the entry and exit of foreign goods into and out of them are exempt from taxes and duties, except for currency exchanges required for the organization and in accordance with existing laws and regulations. Customs exercises no supervision within the free zones, but only carries out supervision outside them, as if they were foreign areas, to prevent any smuggling of goods inside. People dealing with the free zones can use them in one of the following ways:

Occupying empty sites in the free zone, sites supplied with all facilities, roads, sidewalks, foundations, extensions, etc., for building their plants or warehouses in return for annual occupancy commissions for a period up to 15 years for commercial use and up to 20 years for industrial use; with the understanding that ownership of the buildings will revert to the organization after expiration of the contract, whereupon they can be reoccupied under a new contract and new commissions in which the commission for the occupancy of the building itself is taken into consideration.

Occupying already constructed warehouses and buildings at encouraging rates and suitable returns.

Storing their goods in the public warehouses, open spaces, and covered sheds which the organization is building in the free zones, in return for fixed storage rates.

Carrying out conversion, packing, and processing operations on these goods at additional charges.

#### Available Advantages and Incentives in the Syrian Free Zones

Dr Taha Bali, director general of the free zones, says that the investment structure in these zones gives Syrian, Arab, expatriate, and foreign investors many and varied incentives and facilities, mainly:

Permission to bring foreign goods of any type from any source into the free zones and markets and to take them out of the customs zone without being subject to any foreign trade regulations, customs duties, or taxes or fees whatsoever.

Permission to bring goods in the free zones and markets into the customs area to be made available for local consumption in accordance with existing laws and regulations.

Authorization to bring a percentage of products of existing industries into the free zones exempt from certain restrictions on importation in the free zones.

Granting of import licenses for importing the products of the industries mentioned earlier without converting the value abroad.

Exemption of the above industrial products from customs duties by the proportion of local materials involved in the manufacture. They also benefit from the reduction if they involve 40 percent local materials and labor.

Permits to set up banking establishments within the territory of the free zones in order to carry out the financing of various commercial and industrial activities and functions and provide all banking services required by the operations of investors in these zones. The Syrian Commercial Bank has opened two branches, one in the free zone in Damascus and the other in the free zone in Aleppo, and they are actively and successfully operating in accordance with the regulations that have been adopted. They have a high rate of return and have engaged in extensive banking operations, to the advantage of the Syrian Commercial Bank and the investment activities in the free zones and of the national economy in general.

Licenses to supply national and foreign ships with maritime equipment from the free zones, in accordance with pertinent regulations as contained in the investment regulations in the agreement with customs.

Use of the buildings that the General Organization for Free Zones puts at the disposal of investors there and which are supplied with all facilities, roads, sidewalks, electrical and telephone connections, and the necessary equipment such as loading and unloading apparatus, etc., in return for annual rentals equitable to all parties.

All materials, goods, equipment, and machinery placed in the free zones in Syria which originally arrived directly from the country of origin through Syrian ports, airports or post or by land into Syria will be exempt from the provisions governing direct import from the country of origin, and from any violation of prior permit regulations in the event importation is made to Syrian markets. They will be considered not subject to the approval of the cabinet if they are imported into the Syrian market. With the approval of the Ministry of Economy and Foreign Trade, and in accordance with the proposal of the General Organization for Free Zones, the owners of industrial projects in Syrian free zones may be permitted to introduce products in quantities up to a maximum of 20 percent of the value of their exports of these goods to foreign markets into the Syrian market exempt from import restrictions, except as regards restrictions on controlling or limiting imports or Arab boycott provisions. This would be in accordance with import permits issued without need for conversion of the value abroad and based on customs certificates issued through the appropriate customs departments.

Bringing and taking foreign assets and currencies into and out of the free zones and moving profits abroad without being subject to foreign currency control regulations.

#### Necessary Provisions and Steps for Investment in the Free Zones

The director general of the organization says that the system for investment in these zones permits persons, either individuals or legal entities, to occupy sites in these zones, and to build the required buildings on the land and use them either for storing goods (commercial investment) or for setting up industries (industrial use) in return for an annual rental per square meter set in light of the cost plus a profit margin in accordance with a use of rental contract not subject to rental laws, as follows:

1 year for uncovered sites to be used for storage without erecting buildings or industrial equipment on them.

15 years for uncovered sites to be used for erecting buildings for storage.

20 years for uncovered sites to be used for erecting buildings for industries and processing operations.

Upon termination of these contracts, they would be renewed on a yearly basis unless the party concerned, 3 months before expiration of the contract, expresses a wish not to renew. The organization can permit occupants of special sites to sublet occupancy rights to others on condition that the term of the new contract not exceed the term of the first contract. Action to conclude contracts with the free zones are to be initiated by submitting an occupancy request in writing to the management of the free zone where the party wishes to invest, setting forth the purpose, the types of goods to be stored or manufactured, the area needed, and the buildings, industrial facilities, and equipment erected.

#### Development of Syrian Free Zones, Stages Completed, and Results Achieved

Following are the existing free zones in the Syrian Arab Region:

The free zone in Damascus. It covers a total area of 88,500 square meters. Existing industries can be broken down to nine plants (toothpaste, medicine, readymade clothing, perfume essences, candies, olive oil packing, foodstuffs industry, tricot garments) in addition to nine warehouses. It has empty space ready for private investment.

The free zone in Aleppo. This zone is 15 kilometers north of Aleppo and has a railroad running through it connecting it with the port of al-Ladhiqiyah inside Syria and with Iraq and Turkey abroad. It has a total area of 1.5 million square meters, of which 150,000 square meters have been earmarked for the first stage and work is underway to expand to a similar size. It was opened for investment in late 1975, and there are now 21 industrial establishments and 32 commercial establishments.

The free zone in al-Ladhiqiyah. This area is located near the plywood plant at the entrance to the city of al-Ladhiqiyah and covers a total of 765 [as published] square meters, of which 2,300 square meters have been earmarked for the first stage, this area having been provided with all necessary utilities. This area has been open for investment since 1976 and contains three industrial establishments: a fruit juice plant, an agricultural chemicals plant, and a goathair yarn and textile plant. Approval was granted in late 1978 for licensing the construction of a tire retreading plant and a new facility for constructing a cold storage plant to cover a total area of 5,400 square meters.

The free zone at Damascus International Airport. It covers an area of 30,000 Square meters, plus an area of 200,000 square meters that has been readied for future expansion. This area was set up to store air freight and light technical industries. It now handles goods arriving in the region via airline companies. A section of the previously erected buildings has been used to set up five commercial establishments and one industrial establishment for producing medicines and cosmetics.

The free zone in Tartus. The old free zone in the port had a total area of 34,000 square meters and was opened in 1974. It cost a total of 750,000 Syrian pounds, while its income amounted to more than 2.5 million pounds--that is, more than three times its cost. Early this year it was turned over to the port company after the new free zone was completed and opened for investment in early 1979.

The new free zone in Tartus is located parallel to the port and has a total of 500,000 square meters making it a fine site. It has been provided with all necessary utilities--water, electricity, and telephones. This zone was opened for investment in late 1978. Approval was given to license a foreign company to erect metal buildings over an area of 20,000 square meters. All construction work is expected to be complete in 1980.

The free zone in 'Adra. The public area of this zone totals 4 million square meters, all of which is owned by the state, and is the largest of the zones. Of this area, 600,000 square meters have been earmarked for the first stage, in addition to 100,000 square meters set aside for a vehicle sales park, as there has been a great deal of activity in this business, and 'Adra now supplies all neighboring countries, as well as the countries of the Gulf and Iran, with foreign vehicles. All administrative and necessary public utilities (buildings for repair shops and fire departments) have been constructed. Two large warehouses covering an area of 8,000 square meters have been built and are now ready for use. Although construction of this zone and its buildings and facilities is not yet complete, the organization began accepting investment applications from investors in 1978, as the board of directors approved licensing the construction of the following industrial establishments: a sensitized paper plant, a pipe plant, a keyblank plant, a plant for the drug and cosmetics industry, a curtain rod assembly plant, a plant to manufacture refrigerators and air conditioners, and a motor assembly plant. These plants are now under construction, as are the

facilities of the zone itself. Construction of each is going on side by side, and they will be completed and put to use.

#### Activities of Syrian Free Zones in the Arab and International Areas

The Syrian free zones have been active in Arab and international arenas and have been able to obtain decisions and recommendations about the free zones and their role in Syrian economic development and integration, as well as the international dimensions which they have assumed and which are growing year after year, whether in the framework of organization, cooperation or coordination. The United Nations Industrial Development Organization [UNIDO] has advocated more than one Arab and international conference for free zones to mutually study their affairs and the possibility of developing and moving forward. The most important result of these conferences and meetings is the establishment of an international federation of free zones, which has selected Manila, capital of the Philippines, as its headquarters. The Syrian Arab Republic was elected as a member of the federation's executive bureau because of its tangible Arab and international activity, the progress of its experiment, and the fact that it is considered a pioneer in the field of free zones throughout the world. A number of other Arab organizations, such as the Organization of Economic Unity and the Arab Organization of Administrative Sciences, have convened such meetings and conferences at the Arab level. The most important result of them has been approval of the principle of establishing an Arab federation of free zones on the pattern of the international one.

8389

CSO: 4802



SYRIA

COTTON PRICES SET; STEPS TAKEN TO ENSURE DELIVERY AND PAYMENT

Damascus AL-THAWRAH in Arabic 23 Sep 79 p 4

[Article: "Prices Set for Purchase and Transport of Prime Cotton"]

[Text] Steps to set prices on agricultural products for this 1979 season have been moving forward steadily in order to regularize agricultural marketing operations and for all agricultural products in the region, in addition to the decisions setting prices for a number of these products. Muhammad 'Ali al-Halabi, Prime Minister, has issued Decree No 15 which includes setting prices for buying prime cotton from producers at 188 Syrian piasters per kilogram for the 1979 season. It will be marketed through the cooperative societies, with the provision that 1 Syrian piaster will be earmarked for the producer and 1 for the General Federation of Farmers.

So that this increase would not affect the sale price of ginned cotton and cotton seeds to the worker and companies, the decree also dealt with fixing the difference in prices for transporting the cotton produced from the provinces of al-Hasakah, Dayr al-Zawr, al-Raqqah, and 'Ayn al-'Arab in Aleppo Province, as follows:

35 Syrian pounds, rather than 25, for cotton produced in al-Hasakah and delivered to the Aleppo gins.

25 Syrian pounds, rather than 20, for cotton produced from Dayr al-Zawr and delivered to the Aleppo gins; and 30 pounds, rather than 15, for cotton produced in al-Raqqah and 'Ayn al-'Arab and delivered to the Aleppo gins.

The decree of the Prime Minister also ensured fiscal liquidity for the General Organization for Gins and Cotton Marketing, on the pattern of the practice followed with the Organization for the Trade and Export of Seeds, with the provision that the necessary funds will be deposited in each commercial bank based on last year's average receipts, and in each branch agricultural bank where payment is made for cotton a special account will be opened to finance the purchase of cotton so that the funds deposited under Paragraph B will be used solely for cotton.

The Prime Minister's report stressed the necessity of paying for the cotton within 10 days after date of delivery, and the General Organization for Gins and Cotton Marketing was instructed to open technical centers to receive the cotton in primary production areas where there are no gins, with the understanding that these centers would be prepared to start taking deliveries in 1980.

The General Organization for Gins and Cotton Marketing will use the railroads to move cotton and will employ modern machinery for loading and unloading. According to an official source in the General Organization for Gins and Cotton Marketing yesterday, the organization's gins in Aleppo have begun to receive the first early output of cotton for the new season. Receipts so far having totaled 2,000 tons.

He stated that early cotton production output from Aleppo and the northern and eastern provinces is expected to reach the Aleppo gins during the coming week.

It should be noted that the organization has 19 gins.

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SYRIA

IRRIGATION WATER FROM EUPHRATES TO HELP REVIVE AL-SALMIYAH'S AGRICULTURE

Damascus AL-THAWRAH in Arabic 27 Sep 79 p 5

[Article by Hasan al-Qatib: "Project To Bring Euphrates Water To Irrigate the al-Salmiyah Area"]

[Text] The Prime Minister issued instructions, within the framework of field monitoring of the agriculture development plans which are overseen by the appropriate official agencies, that it was necessary to dedicate a comprehensive scientific study to the possibility of using surplus water from the Euphrates Dam and bringing this water to the al-Salmiyah area through special pipelines with the goal of restoring its role as a vital, fertile area, a role it used to have a few years ago in the forefront of agricultural areas from the standpoint of production.

Given this serious attention, one can examine the agricultural situation in the al-Salmiyah area through the following basic facts:

The al-Salmiyah Oasis in Time and Location

Since the earliest days, the al-Salmiyah area has occupied a notable position at the edge of the Syrian Desert as a green oasis whose springtime lasted most of the seasons of the year, and which had natural springs with sources in the foothills of the narrow mountains perched in the al-Ba'lbis area in the middle of the desert.

The Romans took advantage of these qualities and covered the area with a comprehensive irrigation network which embraced the cultivable land; traces of this network can still be seen today.

Over the years, the inhabitants of the al-Salmiyah area were noted for their superior agricultural expertise and varied abilities that proved their ability to work the land in such a way as to renew it and preserve its constantly high productivity.

Up to the present time, despite harsh natural factors, the al-Salmiyah area occupies first place in Hamah Province from the standpoint of soil quality,

varied production, and improvement of agricultural methods through the use of modern machinery, notwithstanding the overpowering natural conditions that weigh heavily on the people and force them to give up in disgust.

#### Natural Obstacles

The paucity of water and the decline in the groundwater level to its lowest level constitute for all practical purposes the prime causes of many agricultural problems in the al-Salmiyah area.

Two decades ago, dozens of natural springs were still flowing actively, providing the area fully with its irrigation needs.

Practices followed up to that time involved the law under which the farmers interacted to divide up the water in accordance with the needs of the cultivated land.

This distribution was made with great skill and precision with no impediments. This was conducive to giving a firm foundation to the spirit of brotherhood among the people of the area and to the bases for cooperation that were reflected in their social behavior, making them one family.

In addition, the mutual division by the population of the highest quality locations provided an appropriate solution by covering a broad area with population clusters that were turned into village sites through controlled coordination and skilled engineering planning. This helped to reduce the pressure on the city and prevent it from being subjected to a high population density.

From this viewpoint, the citizen in the al-Salmiyah area is regarded as the last in a series of sites [as published] which were impelled by overwhelming natural pressures to migrate and break their ties with the land. Despite increasing pressures, the percentage of hardship emigration is lower than in any other area, even though contemporary demands and the consequent new obligations have been behind the upswing in the waves of emigration.

Nonetheless, and one can discover the true situation from the fact that the land in al-Salmiyah still enjoys skilled labor and the strong right arms needed to overcome natural obstacles in anticipation of future plans that will bring a happy ending and restore to the area the vitality that had been taken from it.

As with other areas, this area has suffered from the encroachment of the arid desert, overrunning its trees and fruits and also its fertile plains, turning it into a wasteland. That, however, is attributable primarily to the sparsity of water. This is the justification for the emphasis on the possible diversion of surplus water from the Euphrates to this generously endowed area.

#### Reasonable Justifications

The main justifications that make discussion of such a vital project absolutely essential are:

1. The quality of the soil, since the soil in the al-Salmiyah area is suitable for growing most agricultural crops through crop rotation in the winter and summer seasons. There are some crops which the al-Salmiyah area has specialized in and which have played such a unique role that its name is appended to them--the best known being the al-Salmiyah onions, which are the primary reason for an onion-drying plant to be established there.
2. Agricultural expertise. The farmer in the al-Salmiyah area is considered superior in skill and know-how, in addition to patience, steadfastness, self-confidence, and optimism in the future. His innate spirit and generosity, which he derived from his environment, helped give a firm foundation to a spirit of cooperation before the establishment of the cooperative organizations that were brought about by the glorious 8 March revolution and were supplied with modern agricultural equipment.
3. Population distribution. This is a characteristic whose likes we rarely see in other parts of the country, since there is not a piece of ground where there is not a population cluster such as an integrated model village--this is an area covering 60,000 square hectares, beginning from the red desert line in the east at the village of al-Ba'lbawi and ending with the al-'Asi al-Inhidami line to the west. The villages of al-Salmiyah are located in accordance with a closely coordinated engineering plan, making the whole area a model agricultural unit where the quality and fertility of the soil depend on the skill and know-how of the individual.

#### Outlines of the Plan To Utilize the Euphrates Canal

A look at a map of the country, keeping in mind its topography, will confirm that a canal can be run from the Euphrates toward the al-Salmiyah area quite easily, in conformity with the laws of nature, since the natural slope of the ground will help the water flow freely by itself with no need to use pumps, except for a small hill no more than 7 kilometers long.

Surveys done at the instruction of the Prime Minister have shown that this project, which is of vital importance for production, can be accomplished at a very low cost and in conformity with scientific practices.

Even at the present stage, when the project is still under serious study, the optimism felt by the people of the area arises from the seriousness with which the departments concerned are treating this project.

#### Other Benefits

The project will certainly have ancillary benefits just as important from the standpoint of economic return as the primary goal of an agricultural revival of the area: